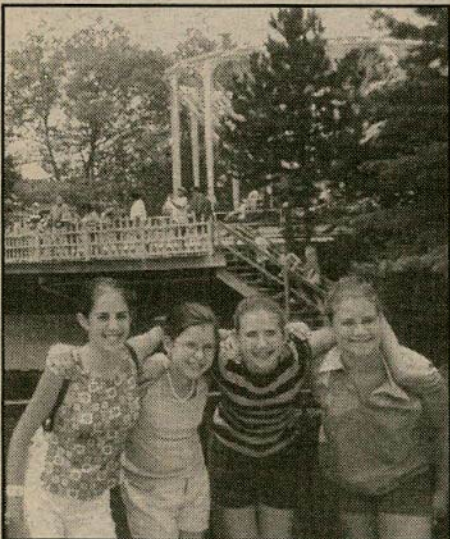


Riverboats, Roller coasters, and Revelry PITT DAYS PEAK AGAIN

PITTSBURGH, PA – "The boat ride was very impressive, from the sites of the city to the music, the many great people that we met, and, most importantly, the phenomenal organization of the three day event," remarked Brooklyn, New York, Serb Jovo Cvijic, an SNF member but a first time attendee of the annual event.

Added wife Mara, also a stalwart member of our Savez, "Our visit to Pittsburgh reminded us very much of our hometown, Mrkonjic Grad in Republika Srpska, with the beautiful hills, great sites, and the Serb National Federation Museum."

By all accounts, the 85th Annual Serbian Day/50th Annual SNF Days sponsored by the Greater Pittsburgh and Tri-State area lodges of the Srpski Narodni Savez, July 19-21, 2002, was a rousing success.



Stephanie August, Ana Tyler, Laura Ralich and Samantha Mukanos at Kennywood

FAMILY FUN TIME

The festivities began early on Friday



Milana Bizic, her mother Laura Karlo, Father Rico and Mother Ana at Kennywood

morning, July 19, 2001, at Kennywood Park in West Mifflin, Penna., where Serbian families congregated to enjoy the rides, arcades, and family amusements.

According to Sonja Capuzzi, a member of SNF L-163, Sveti Ilija, Rankin, Penna., who celebrated her tenth birthday on Serbian Day at the park, "It took forever to get to the rides because there were so many Serbs to greet you along the way! It was fun going to Kennywood and seeing Serbian friends around every corner."

Only on Serbian Day do park attendees have such a welcome obstacle course of handshakes, kisses, hugs, and slaps on the back as they make their way to the roller coasters, ferris wheel, and other amusements!

BALLOONS AND HANDOUTS

SNF Cultural Director Dragan Kovacevic made arrangements for Marco Trbovich to MC and for the

Beaver Valley Junior Tamburitians of Aliquippa, Penna., to perform in the park itself prior to the main show. The children also walked throughout the park with red, blue and white balloons, along with handouts pertaining to the Serbs and the SNF. Our young Serbian children are our people's most precious resource, and the young Beaver Valley tamburitians made ideal SNF representatives. Hvala deco, i ziveli!

THE CURTAIN RISES

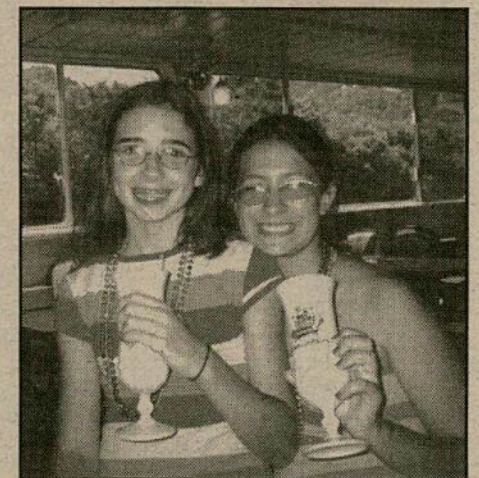
Master of ceremonies Alex Malich, SNF Vice President, opened the main show at 6:00 P.M. at Kennywood Park's main pavilion. The American national anthem was sung by Marco Trbovich while Danny Capuzzi and Ivan Oberknez performed the Canadian and Serbian anthems respectively. Back up music was provided by Danny Capuzzi and Steve "Draza" Capuzzi, grandsons of famous SNF songster Danny Kukich.

The Federation was honored by the presence of His Grace, Bishop Mitrophan, Serbian Orthodox Church, Eastern American Diocese. Bishop Mitrophan invoked the Holy Spirit and blessed the sprawling assembly with a prayer.

SNF Vice President Steve Balach offered greetings on behalf of SNF National President D.J. Ljubenko, who could not attend. Immediate past President George Martich with wife Micky, and former SNF First Lady Sally Stone, were among those acknowledged in the audience.

Greetings were offered by Dr. Krinka Vidakovich Petrov, Yugoslav Ambassador to Israel, and Ivan Zivkovic, the Charge d'Affairs of the Yugoslav Embassy to the United States, stationed in Washington, D.C. Dr. Krinka's delightful remarks included an invitation to make every day a Serbian Day in one's heart, while Diplomat Zivkovic announced that the federal government of Yugoslavia (soon to be Serbia and Montenegro

See *Kennywood* on page 32



Laura Ralich and Nicole Hixenbaugh

Photos by Georgette Brnilovich Osman

INSIDE

Check out the latest segment of *Tidbits of Serbiana* on page 10 & 11

This year's SNF Scholarship winners are on page 14 & 15

More Folklore Festival on page 25 & 26

Read the personal story and recipe for *Palacinka* on page 29



St. George of Kansas City, KS to Host SNF Bowling Tournament October 11-13, 2002

by Helen Zakula Kennon

WHERE/WHEN:

Make sure to mark your calendars for the 57th Annual Serb National Federation Bowling Tournament to be held October 11, 12, & 13, 2002 in Kansas City, Kansas. This year's event will be sponsored by St. George Lodge #43 along with assistance from the St. George Church Congregation. This is the first time that St. George - Kansas City has sponsored a national SNF event and we look forward to holding an exciting and successful tournament and displaying the hospitality for which we are well-known. You won't want to miss this memorable

event, so make plans now!

REGISTRATION:

Entry forms are available from the SNF and through the *Srbobran*.

AD/CELEBRATION BOOKLET:

A book of well-wishes and congratulatory messages to the teams, hosts, and SNF will be published for the event. Don't miss this opportunity to send

continued on page 33

Reflections

■ **JOLIET WRAPS IT UP**—You know summer is almost over when the golf tournament becomes history. Hats off to the entire committee for a job well done. Co-chairmen Mike Lukich and Dan Dorsey also deserve a special commendation for spending hours at the two golf courses. "One of them stationed at each golf course during the entire tournament," said one player. "It was great. They made sure we didn't get lost at the turn." Lukich was also responsible for snagging a great gift for the participants who each received a dozen Titleist™ balls in their goody bags.

■ **AMONG THE GUESTS**—Longtime tournament-goer Wally Tomich of the Detroit, Michigan, area stopped Reflections in Joliet to set his attendance record straight. We reported Wally had attended 61 consecutive basketball tournaments, but that was a slight exaggeration of the facts. "When I was in Hamilton (this year), that was my 60th," said Wally proudly. He now brings his young grandson along to keep up the Tomich tradition.

■ **WON'T MISS A GOLF TOURNEY**—Also at the SNF Summer Golf Tournament were golfers Stan "Stanko" and Karen Brozik of Masontown, PA. We hear Stanko would jump through hoops to be at a golf event anywhere. "Name the place, the date and the time, and he will find a way." Karen's work schedule prevents her from ever attending the Midwinter tournaments. "But, I never miss a summer tournament," she says proudly. The Broziks are both members of the Masontown SNF Lodge.

■ **SPEAKING OF THE MIDWINTER**—Anyone interested in attending the Midwinter Golf Tournament needs to know that the Clearwater, Florida group has been busy making plans for the 2003 gathering ever since the doors closed on this year's successful event. Chairman Peter Mulin said the committee is meeting regularly and plans are in full swing. For those seeking low, low, extra cheap airfare which may be available with enough advance notice, the dates are Tuesday, February 18 through Saturday, February 22. Some Chicago to Clearwater airfares have been advertised as low as \$112 round trip! Make your reservations early and use the money you save to spend more while in sunny Florida this winter.

■ **RICKSHAW RIDERS**—Overhearing some of the rickshaw drivers from a bench on the Boardwalk at Atlantic City speaking Serbian, sisters Helen Drakulic Mochan and Anne Drakulic Macesic couldn't help but ask them who they were. And that's how they met Alex from Belgrade and fraternal twins Boban and Dragan from Bosna. The young men told the ladies there were ten Serbs in Atlantic City for the summer driving the rickshaws. If you find yourself in that area, take a ride on a rickshaw and "you may find the driver to be a Serb."

■ **WE LIKE TO HEAR FROM YOU**—We want your name in Reflections, too. Send news to us at 1255 Blue Bell Trail, Schererville, IN 46375-1377 or sradoja@msn.com.

SNF WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS



A big SNF welcome to Alexander Christopher Schramm and John Petar Popovic.

The parents of Alexander are Milana and Kent. Proud dad is a Major in the Canadian Air Force. Paternal grandparents are Bill and John Schramm of Saskatchewan, Canada.

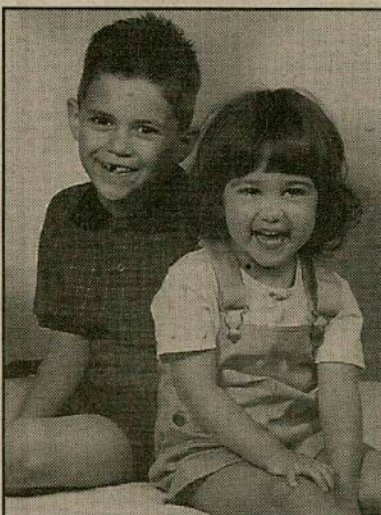
The parents of Jovan are Nada and Mile. Paternal grandparents are Jovo and Vera of Stoney Creek, Canada.

The maternal grandparents of Alexander and Jovan are the well known couple from Niagara Falls, Canada, Eli and Nettie (Honey) Jovetich. Eli and Honey have long been very active and now are more so then ever.

To all Ziveli and best wishes from your SNF.



Katie



Adam & Lyndsay

joins family and friends in a warm welcome to Adam, Lyndsay and Katie!

Adam and Lyndsay Munich, children of Steven and Tracey Munich, and their cousin Katie Munich, daughter of Michael and Diana Munich, are among the newest members of the Serb National Federation.

The Munich young people are the grandchildren of Michael and the late Cathy Munich. At one time, Michael was on the SSF Executive Board. Cathy was an avid bowler and golfer who participated in both tournaments.

The Munich family is members of St. Stephen Serbian Orthodox Church in Lackawanna, NY. The SNF

АМЕРИКАНСКИ СРБОБРАН

THE AMERICAN SRBOBRAN

The Largest and Oldest Serbian Newspaper in America and Canada

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Sandi Tumbas Radoja, Editor
English Section

Dr. Aleksandar Petrov, Editor
Serbian Section

Tracy Weir, Typesetting/Layout
English Section

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The American Srbobran Editorial Staff reserves the right to limit space size of advertisement and news articles submitted. Due to the range of activities covered by the American Srbobran, and the large geographical scope involved, it is with great regret that items must be curtailed on occasion. Professional discretion will be used in condensing submitted material when space is at a premium.

SRPSKA NOC

American Serbian Club

South Side, Pittsburgh, PA

AUG 23
AUG 30
SEP 6
SEP 13
SEP 20

SELO
JUNACI
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DJ VELJKO
ANNUAL MEMBER
BANQUET & LIRA
FROM DETROIT

RADIO SHOW EVERY
SUNDAY 4-5 WEDO 810 AM

DONATION FOR THE SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Serbian Singing Society
Ravanica Choir, Detroit MI\$100.00
In Honor of SNF "Man of the Year"
Jim Berar



St. George Serbian Orthodox Church Celebrates 50 Years

St. George Serbian Orthodox Church in San Diego, California will be celebrating the 50th Anniversary of the founding of its parish on October 12 and 13, 2002.

Festivities will begin with Vesper Services on Saturday, October 12 and the evening will end with dancing to tamburitza music.

A Pontifical Liturgy will be officiated by Bishop Longin, visiting clergy, and our own V. Rev. Fr. Bozidar Draskovic on Sunday, October 13, 2002, at 10:00 am with responses by the St. George choir.

Following the Liturgy, President Wayne Papac and Vice President Dennis Jaich will delight the attendees with some authentic Serbian cuisine.

Mary Hart, Editor of SERB WORLD, will be the inspirational speaker. Mary has written extensively on Serbian history and culture and will help to memorialize the day.

When the present Church was consecrated in 1969, it was dedicated to (1) the Glory of Almighty God; (2) Holy Orthodoxy and the tradition which it represents; (3) St. George who has blessed us with his patronage; (4) the Brethren who have departed this life; (5) the parishioners, past and present, whose faith laid the foundation of the church and whose devotion and tireless service built it; (6) the future generations who will inherit the responsibility and privilege to perpetuate the Holy Orthodox faith.

Therefore, this generation is planning to honor our founders via a Commemorative Book, a video, and church services, with good food and music. Fifty years of hard work and unfaltering faith led us to this happy anniversary.

On behalf of the entire St. George Church community, a most cordial invitation is extended to all.

BIZIC EARNS SENIOR PROFESSIONAL STATUS

Nick Bizic, 32, recently earned certification as a Senior Professional in Human Resources (SPHR). He is employed at the architectural firm of LDA Associates, owned and operated by Louis and Dennis Astorino, architects of record for Pittsburgh's PNC Park where the Pirates play ball.

The certification, awarded by the Human Resource Certification Institute (HRCI), signifies that Nick possesses the theoretical knowledge and practical experience in human resource management necessary to pass a rigorous examination demonstrating a mastery of the body of knowledge in the field. The pass rate of the SPHR exam was only 52% for the May, 2002 examination.

"Certification as a human resource professional clearly demonstrates a commitment to personal excellence and to the human resource profession," said Susan Meisinger, SPHR, President and CEO of the Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM).

To become certified, an applicant must pass a comprehensive examination and demonstrate a strong background of professional human resource experience. A SPHR candidate

- Designs and plans rather than implements.
- Focuses on the "big picture."
- Has ultimate accountability in the HR department.
- Has 6-8 years of progressive HR experience.
- Has breadth and depth of HR generalist knowledge.
- Uses judgment obtained with time and application of knowledge.
- Is not specialized; has generalist role within organization.
- Understands the level of impact one's decisions make within and outside of the organization.
- Understands the business, not just the HR function.
- Manages relationships; has influence within overall organization.
- Commands credibility within organization, community and field by experience.
- Possesses excellent negotiation skills.

HRCI is the credentialing body for human resource professionals and is affiliated with the Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM), the world's largest organization dedicated exclusively to the human resource profession.



The Institute's purpose is to promote the establishment of professional standards and to recognize professionals who meet those standards.

Exceptional standards have been Nick's trademark, having graduated with high honors in three years from the University of Pittsburgh with a B.S. in Business and History. He also graduated with honors when obtaining his Masters from the graduate school of Public and International Affairs at Pitt. He is a member of Phi Alpha Theta, played in the University of Pittsburgh Marching Band, and is a member of the Golden Key National Honor Society recognizing his scholastic achievement and excellence.

Nick is the son of Mim Bizic and grandson of the late Milan Karlo, former editor of the *American Srbobran* and *Diocesan Observer*. He is a member of SNF Lodge #188 Vidov Dan, where his Kum Alex Roknick and his Kum's father Marko Roknick, who was also a lodge founder, are both past presidents.

Nick is engaged to be married to Dana Hickey of Oakmont, PA. The couple plans an October 5 wedding in Aliquippa.

Lodge News

ST. GEORGE LODGE #118 LANSING, ILLINOIS

St. George Lodge #118 will hold its "regular" quarterly meeting" on Sunday, September 22, 2002. It will take place immediately following the Divine Liturgy in the administration building multipurpose room.

Refreshments will be served. Hope you can join in.

MOTHERS AGAINST HUNGER PLAN 10TH ANNUAL BANQUET

HOBART, IN --- For the tenth consecutive year the four Circles of Serbian Sisters in Northwest Indiana from the churches in St. George, East Chicago; St. George, Schererville; and St. Sava and St. Elijah, Merrillville, will jointly sponsor a banquet to benefit humanitarian efforts in the former Yugoslavia. It will take place on Sunday, October 6.

The annual banquet is expected to be exceptional this year as the Sisters who call their joint effort "Mothers Against Hunger" mark the tenth time they join together to sponsor this worthy event. Special guest speakers will be announced at a later date.

The banquet will be at the St. Elijah Serbian American Hall in Hobart, according to St. Sava Kolo President Darlene Sever. "The funds raised are delivered personally by some of our ladies each year, and benefit orphanages and other humanitarian causes," said one committee member.

Those unable to attend the banquet are encouraged to contact a member of any Circle to make a donation.

VISIT NEW YORK IN THE FALL

by Zorka Milich, Ph.D., Chairwoman

The Restoration and Development Committee of St Sava Cathedral in New York is making great plans to welcome you to our 2nd banquet in the new millennium, to be held on October 20th, in the newly refurbished Marriott Financial Center Hotel in the heart of Wall Street, overlooking the Statue of Liberty.

While in the neighborhood, you might want to pay homage to the victims of 9/11, only two blocks from the hotel. Whether or not you have placed the names of your parents and grandparents who came through Ellis Island on the wall, this would be the ideal opportunity for you and your family to visit both the Island and Lady Liberty. New York City is never boring. Fall is the ideal season for enjoying the theater and Times Square, museums, fabulous shopping, and leisurely walking which, in itself, is an absorbing and exhilarating experience. We will keep trying to whet your appetite about the thrills one can find in New York until you finally relent and make your plans to be with us.

Remember, your New York Serbian friends are expecting you on October 20, 2002.

THOUGHTS ON THE DIVINE LITURGY

by Father Rodney Torbic

We come to the Divine Liturgy to pray and worship God. We bring with us our individual concerns and hopes. We bring our prayers for the wellness of loved ones. We remember our departed.

The worship experience offers us an opportunity to be renewed. Through prayer we enter into our relationship with God and we are replenished. The Divine Liturgy brings together the human and the divine. The Holy Scriptures serve to feed us. The music lifts our hearts and souls.

We come together as the Body of Christ, Serbian Orthodox Christians united with Orthodox Christians around the world. The worshipping body around the world varies in age, national origin and color. The differences among Orthodox Christians are transcended by the common unity expressed in The Nicene-Constantinopolitan Creed.

We share common beliefs and drink from the Life-giving Cup of our Lord.

As we enter the worship experience, we witness to the belief that value exists in worshipping God. Moreover, we are reaching beyond ourselves to the divine. We seek the direction, the healing, love and care which are uniquely God's.

When people have no place to turn, they have God. God is available always. The church door is open for the broken hearted, the sick, those in mourning and those devastated by tragedy. In the stillness of the church, the searching can seek answers...the hurt can find healing.

The Divine Liturgy takes place in time but it helps the worshipper to escape the cares of the world and to enter a different experience. The Kingdom of God with the accompanying blessings is revealed in the worship experience.

For some people, the first Divine Liturgy opens the door of enrichment. Each subsequent liturgy builds on the first. For others, many experiences are necessary for the heart to be opened and the richness to be let in.

Language is a barrier for certain people. For others, the divine experience is sensed without notice of language. The Divine Liturgy is served in cathedrals, country churches, camp grounds, prisons and hospitals. The Divine Liturgy is served on all continents. A common bond unites the worshippers in all these locations. Authenticity is present at each Divine Liturgy. The fullness of God is manifested in each Eucharistic experience.

The Divine Liturgy stands as the crowning jewel in the worship experience. The Divine Liturgy holds a special place in the Orthodox view. Attending the Divine Liturgy requires preparation. We sometimes build on our worship experience by Vesper and Matins services which precede the Divine Liturgy.

Regular worship can lead to the Divine Liturgy being part of our beings. Attentive participation will serve to reveal new insights and enrichment. We seek to enter the Kingdom of God, to unite with our Creator and Redeemer.

Most often the Divine Liturgy is attended on Sundays. The Divine Liturgy is also served during the week. We should not deny ourselves the treasure of this worship experience when it is offered on weekdays. Attending the Divine Liturgy can transform the day. It can brighten the outlook. It can restore the order to life.

The bishop or priest presides at the Divine Liturgy and normally the choir sings the responses. The prayers offered include remem-

brance of the living and the departed, the church and civil authorities. We pray for the sick, the suffering, the imprisoned...for travelers, for those who hate us and those who love us. We pray for peace, for unity of heart and mind. We lift up our hearts.

We are not stationary in prayer. We cross ourselves. At times we kneel. At times we make prostrations. Our senses are involved and are affected by the worship experience. Icons capture our attention and serve to summon our inner thoughts and reverence. Incense is linked inextricably with our prayers.

The Mother of God and all the saints figure prominently throughout the Divine Liturgy. We move as a worshipping body from the opening "Blessed is the Kingdom" to the final "Amen." The time of day for serving the Divine Liturgy is relatively constant.

When we participate in Holy Confession and Communion, we move about the church. We respond to the invitation: "In the fear of God and with faith, draw near!"

As we recite The Creed and prayers before and after Communion, we witness to our Faith. We are investing in our spiritual wellness.

The Divine Liturgy is not for the stagnant Christian. The Epistle and Gospel, the sermon, the whole worship experience is intended to bring about change in the worshipper. Ideally, we leave the Divine Liturgy better Christians than when we arrived.

There is comfort in knowing that the Divine Liturgy is to be served in a certain way. We can develop confidence in understanding the universality of this focus on God.

Orthodox Christians throughout the world are linked in the experience of the Divine Liturgy. The church militant and the church triumphant come together.

The Divine Liturgy enables the believer to partake of the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ. Centuries are transcended as we mark the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. The remission of sins becomes a focal point.

When we enter the experience of the Divine Liturgy, we reach a point where we set aside earthly cares. Our focus changes. We change our concentration.

We enter a state with God which is peaceful. Peace is a prevalent theme in the Divine Liturgy. From the beginning, we seek to start out in peace as we pray. More than once, the priest says: "Peace be unto all!"

The Divine Liturgy makes clear we are a Trinitarian Church. The Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit permeate the complete service. The Creed sets forth in succinct form, the basic tenets of the Faith.

Time has not diminished the value of the Divine Liturgy. Believers are ever-renewed. Each Divine Liturgy takes on a newness, like a new day dawning.

We come together from different communities to worship God. We come from different educational and economic backgrounds. Children and parents, single and married adults, widows and widowers, all find nourishment in the Divine Liturgy.

We may take the Divine Liturgy for granted because it is so accessible to us. Consider how many people may yearn for the opportunity to be a part of the liturgy but cannot. Remember the shut-ins who cannot come to church. Think about the incarcerated and hospitalized for whom the Divine Liturgy is not available. Keep in mind those who live far from Orthodox churches where there are no priests to come and serve.

The Divine Liturgy is a treasure. But it is more than a treasure. The Divine Liturgy brings us together with each other, with Orthodox Christians around the world and it brings all of us closer to God. Through the Divine Liturgy we enter into the unity of creation. The bond of the Creator and the created is renewed and manifested. Let us ever be sensitive to the Divine Liturgy.

Let us ever be sensitive to the presence of God in our lives and let us give thanks.

SNF Baba

& Djedo Club



Pictured from left to right are Katherine Tripus, Ethan Hawkins (on Katherine's lap), John Tripus, Lia Alberti, Mildred (Mitzi) Loncar, Eli Loncar (on Mitzi's lap), Taylor Hawkins, Demetri Loncar, and Mirko Loncar

The Baba tradition comes forth again.

Lodge 6 St. George member Mitzi Loncar, wife of the late Milan Loncar, originally from Sudbury, Canada, but now of Pittsburgh, PA, recently enrolled her eight grandchildren in the Serb National Federation. One of the reasons is from sporting and cultural events and even scholarships, "the SNF provides many opportunities for the next generation of Serbs to connect with one another and share in some wonderful experiences that last a lifetime."

Recently Lodge 6 also benefited from the generosity of another Baba - Stella Generalovich of Hermitage, PA, who enrolled her newest twin grandchildren.

The SNF will prosper if all Babas and Djedos would act in a similar fashion.

The new members are Lia R. Alberti, 10, of Manassas, VA, whose parents are Marianne and Greg Alberti; Ethan S. Hawkins, 2, and Taylor J. Hawkins, 5, of Chester VA, children of Dana and Scott Hawkins; Eli M. Loncar, 5, Mirko N. Loncar, 4, and P. Demetrius Loncar, 5, children of Peter and Mary Beth Loncar all of Aliquippa, PA; and Katherine L. Tripus, 11, and John A. Tripus, 7, children of Dessa and Joseph Tripus, of Centerville, VA.

The Serbian hearts of Mitzi and Stella and their desire to see their family offspring maintain their Serbian heritage inspired the SNF to feature a Baba and Djedo section in the American Srbobran. Periodically special recognition will be in the paper to those Babas and Djedos who enroll their grandchildren. They will also receive a Baba and Djedo Certificate of Appreciation from the Serb National Federation.

The SNF welcomes all of the grandchildren, and to our Babas of Honor our sincere appreciation and respect for your contribution to our future.

Ed note: If you know a Baba or Djedo who gave the same gift to one or more of their grandchildren, send the information to "SNF Baba and Djedo Club, c/o Sandi Radoja, 1255 Blue Bell Trail, Schererville, IN 46375" and the SNF will recognize them in the same way.--str

ALEX MACHASKEE VISITS PRESIDENT BUSH

The importance of The Plain Dealer, Ohio's largest newspaper located in Cleveland, and its president and publisher Alex Machaskee, has not gone unnoticed at the White House.

Machaskee, a Serbian-American, has been involved in presidential events twice within the last month. Ohio is an important state for President Bush with Machaskee being an influential leader in the civic and international community of the Greater Cleveland area.

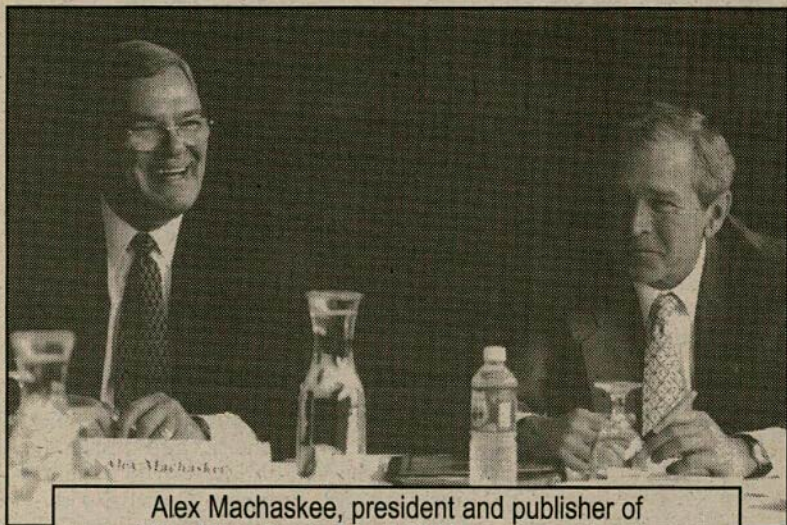
President Bush visited Cleveland in early July to address an audience of 3,000 supporters from local charities, school choice organizations, and non-profit and community groups who had gathered to hear him speak about his domestic agenda.

Machaskee, also chairman of United Way Services, was invited to moderate a private roundtable discussion held prior to President Bush's address in Cleveland. In addition to the President, roundtable participants included Ohio Senator George Voinovich, Governor Bob Taft of Ohio, Cleveland Mayor Jane Campbell, and several other political leaders and civic activists from Cleveland.

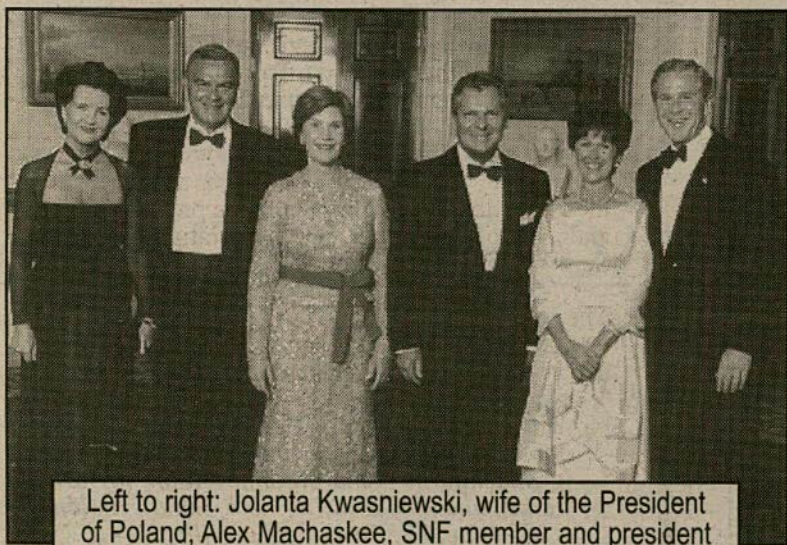
In mid-July Machaskee and his wife Carol were also invited to attend the second White House state dinner of Bush's presidency held for Polish President Aleksander Kwasniewski and his wife Jolanta. President Bush hosted the dinner to honor Poland for its support of the U.S. war against terrorism.

At the dinner the Machaskees were in the company of an impressive list of prominent guests including Bush's cabinet members. The only other member of the media invited was Wolf Blitzer, anchor at CNN, and his wife Lynn.

When asked about the evening event Machaskee remarked, "It was magical. I consider it an honor to be invited to a state dinner at the White House. The President and Mrs. Bush were very warm and friendly to all of the guests." Machaskee received the same cordial welcome from President Bush when he greeted the President upon his arrival in Cleveland in early July. As President Bush disembarked from Air Force One and approached Machaskee in the receiving line at the airport, President Bush addressed him as "Big Alex."



Alex Machaskee, president and publisher of "The Plain Dealer" and SNF member, sits with President Bush during a Roundtable discussion at State Theater in Cleveland on July 1, 2002.



Left to right: Jolanta Kwasniewski, wife of the President of Poland; Alex Machaskee, SNF member and president and publisher of The Plain Dealer; First Lady Laura Bush; Aleksander Kwasniewski, President of Poland; Carol Machaskee; and President Bush at a State Dinner at the White House on July 17.

SSF Library Building Fund Donor List: May- June, 2002

The Serbian Singing Federation continues to solicit and collect donations to offset the expenses necessary to operate and make improvements at their headquarters in Michigan. Here is a supplemental list of donors who contributed to this excellent effort:

\$500.00

S.S.S. St. Nicholas Choir - Omaha, NE

\$300.00

Bogdan Topolski

\$200.00

S.S.S. Boza Yoksimovich

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Bozo Trbovic- Schererville, IN

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Mr. & Mrs. Jovan Vojcanin-

Crown Point, IN

Vlade Sormaz- Schererville, IN

Svetozar Torbica- Schererville, IN

Anonymous

Anonymous

\$15.00

Mimi Ostovich- Steubenville, OH

In memory of +Zivan Pekovich

\$10.00

Dorothy Radojevich- Kansas City, KS

S. Ruzimonic

Vasilj Petrovic- Toronto, CAN

Anonymous

\$5.00

Anonymous

NOTE:

The donations listed above were collected at the S.S.F. Festival held in May in Schererville, IN. We apologize for any errors in misspelled names; the names were taken from the collection envelopes and listed accordingly.

- Ljubi Hayden

Metropolitan Amfilohije heads delegation to USA and Canada

WASHINGTON, DC—His Eminence Metropolitan Amfilohije of Montenegro and the Littoral headed an official delegation, which included Yugoslav Federal Secretary for Religious Affairs Dr. Bogoljub Sijakovic, and Yugoslav Deputy Federal Secretary for Religious Affairs Mr. Boris Milosavljevic, to the United States of America and Canada. The visit encompassed several areas of common concern to the Serbian Orthodox Church and the government of the Yugoslav Federal Republic. Meetings were scheduled with government authorities in Washington, DC, officials at the United Nations in New York, a wide array of governmental and non-governmen-

tal organizations, as well as meaningful encounters with the Serbian Diaspora on this continent.

As the Office of External Affairs of the Serbian Orthodox Church in the USA and Canada, together with the Yugoslav Embassy to the United States of America, and the Yugoslav Permanent Mission to the United Nations hosted the delegation in Washington, DC and New York City, the Rev. Irinej Dobrijevic accompanied the delegation as facilitator and translator, together with Ms. Dragana Filipovic, Political Counselor of the Yugoslav Embassy, and other staff personnel.



The next issue of the American Srbobran is September 4th.

Articles are due by August 23rd.

Comments & Translations

by Krinka Vidakovic Petrov

WORLD MUSIC MADE IN SERBIA

One of the ways to fathom the age of a nation is through its music. Traditional music is like an I.D. card of a nation: it weaves together the best contributions of generations of unknown folk musicians and their anonymous audiences, defining the soul of the nation.

Quite often a sharp distinction is made between traditional of folk music on one hand, and modern, contemporary music on the other. However, sometimes – and a case in point is American jazz – a unique synthesis is achieved between the traditional and the modern, resulting in an explosion of creative energy, a breakthrough in the mainstream of contemporary music.

Today, in many countries of the world, there are two interesting trends.

One is to salvage traditional music, to go back to the deepest roots, the authentic musical values that often remain hidden under layers of “new” interpretations. In Serbia, it is the Teofilovic brothers and Biljana Krstic with her “Bistrik Band”, who have revived the authentic tradition and brought it to the attention of the mainstream public. If you want to discover what an authentic Serbian song from Kosovo sounds like, listen to “Bistrik Band”. The two Teofilovic brothers sing without instrumental accompaniment: their performance is purely vocal. Imagine them singing old Serbian songs at a concert in Japan several years ago: even an audience who knew nothing about Serbian musical tradition appreciated its beauty.

The other trend is called world music or ethno-music. It has become extremely popular internationally. What is world music? In a word, it is a creative adaptation of the best fruits of traditional music to the requirements of our own times, an art that that easily rises to the sky of ethnic universality although it is rooted in underground ethnic diversity. Cesarea Evora, from Brazil, is an outstanding example. Her songs, unmistakably Brazilian, have become international hits sung by people all around the world. Evora has held concerts in every corner of the world, including Belgrade several years ago, and she sold four million albums.

Are own Goran Bregovic is the most outstanding example of world music made in Yugoslavia. Bregovic was the leader of one of the best and most popular rock bands in former Yugoslavia – called White Button (Bijelo dugme). He wrote music for the internationally acclaimed films of Emir Kusturica, and when the war erupted, both of them left Sarajevo forever, Bregovic settling in France.

Bregovic's song “Djurdjevdan”, from Kusturica's film “Time of the Gypsies” became a hit not only in Yugoslavia but internationally. This melancholic song, rooted in our own, beautiful, old tradition is well known to audiences in France, Turkey, Greece, and Israel. Just last month Bregovic held a concert in Vrsac (Serbia), which was a sort of homecoming for him.

An excellent representative of world music made in Serbia is Aleksandar Sanja Ilic and his group called “Balkanika”. Here is how Ilic describes his artistic breakthrough: “I worked in pop and rock music until the nineties, when we all ran into hard times and difficulties. That's when I began searching for and articulating my own musical formula – by going back the roots, the essential nucleus of Balkan music...Our rock scene could not generate any new rock musicians of the format of Bora Djordjevic or Momcilo Bajagic [outstanding rock musicians of the eighties]. Balkanika music relies on tradition, going down to the deepest roots of Balkan spirituality. It's original. The audience responded with a burst of energy.”

Last year Ilic and his “Balkanika” tested their musical formula by touring the whole of Serbia – Krusevac, Zajecar, Pirot, Nis, Loznica, Smederevo, Vrsac, Novi Sad, Cacak. It was a huge success. However, the biggest success was in Republika Srpska: “During our tour of Serbia we received a fabulous response from the audience. In Republika Srpska, however, the response was even stronger. People had tears in their eyes. I knew we were on the right track,” says Sanja Ilic.

“Balkanika” was then invited to give a concert in Slovenia, which was also a success. Next in line are probably China and Mexico. Sanja Ilic would like to work with Kusturica, to write music for his films, like Goran Bregovic once did. Perhaps it will work out? Right now Kusturica is working on a new movie, which he is filming in the mountains of Western Serbia near the Drina River. It is about the beginning of the conflict in Bosnia, a tale told by a man caught between a rock and a hard place.

It seems that Balkan music is also a tale told by someone between a rock and a hard place, which aptly describes the dominant historical experience of this corner of the world. What is surprising, however, is the creative energy it is generating in music, film, literature, painting.

There is good world music made in Serbia. Try “Balkanika”. You'll love what they have to offer.

BELLS TOLL ON VRACAR HILL

Over 100 years ago, our pioneers blazed a trail for us on this continent. They founded our churches and our fraternal societies, and they integrated into the American and Canadian ways of life through hard work and community spirit. They pledged allegiance to the American and Canadian flags and became some of their finest citizens.

They raised their families to be proud citizens in the new lands, and worked hard in factories and mines to bring more of their family members to the and of opportunity. They gave up their homes to seek a better life. They showed their gratitude through their huge civic contributions and in other way. At the same time they protected their heritage, culture, religion, language and history through education, much of which took place in the home.

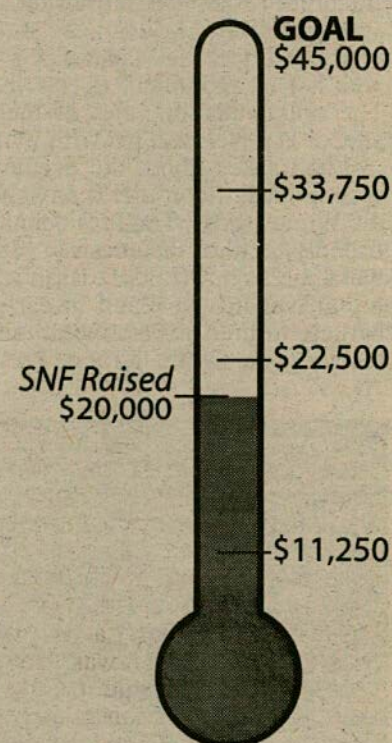
It is up to us who have benefited from their sacrifices to commemorate them and honor their memory. We can do that not only here in America and Canada through the perpetuation of Serbdom, but in the country of their birth.

On the occasion of the 100th Anniversary of the Serb National Federation, the SNF purchased and dedicated the third largest bell that now rings from St. Sava Cathedral on Vracar Hill in Belgrade. That bell tolls for the American and Canadian pioneers who came to this continent and formed a

fraternal society from which we all benefit today.

Your donation to help pay for the \$45,000 bell already installed in the St. Sava Cathedral and inscribed in honor of the Serbian pioneers who founded this fraternal society will mean you have extended your thanks to our founding fathers in this unique way. Send your contribution. Be a part of the Bells of Vracar!

Donations from SNF to Date



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• CHECK (made payable to the Serb National Federation)

Name _____

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• VISA OR MASTER CARD (please circle one)
Card number _____
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SEND DONATIONS TO: SNF
One 5th Avenue, 7th Floor,
Pittsburgh, PA 15222
(412) 642-SERB (7372)

VRACAR DONATIONS

Lodge #86, SNF, Chicago, IL	500.00
V.Rev. Fr. Djuro Krosnjak, Libertyville IL	200.00
Michael M. Glusac, Grosse Pointe Farms, MI	100.00
(in memory of father Mitar Glusac)	
Joseph Masich, Port Charlotte FL	100.00
(in memory of Parents Stephen & Martha Masich, my wife Pauline Masich, Son Nichola Masich, brother Eli Masich)	
George Djordjo Repic, Bloomingdale NJ	100.00
Korach Family, Lackawanna NY	50.00
(in memory of Steven Korach)	
Milos Sekulic, Chicago, IL	50.00
(in memory late parents Jovan & Nada Sekulic)	
Rev. Milan & Lindsay Zobenica, Parma OH	25.00

Heavenly "Kir Stefan Srbin" Choir Lifts Pittsburgh Hearts Aloft

by Milana Karlo Bizic July 23, 2002

The scene was most inspiring. Ahead stood 26 young women beautifully attired in long, midnight-blue costumes with exquisite, cut-out design work reminiscent of those worn in their country's Medieval times. Their dark eyes were attentively glued to their director, Milan Ilic, awaiting a nod from him to begin a long repertoire of songs that the programs in our hands promised would be both liturgical and secular in nature.

The setting on that Sunday, July 14, 2002, was the magnificent, gothic-style Heinz Chapel, built not only of stone, but "dedicated to spiritual values in education."

We were surrounded by 391 giants of the world, entombed in 73-foot tall stained-glass windows, representing TEMPERANCE (Moses, Benjamin Franklin), TRUTH (Saint John, Galileo), TOLERANCE (Saint Francis, William Penn) and COURAGE (Saint George, Leif Ericsson, St. Joan of Arc). There were 23 windows in all. The windows serving as a backdrop for the young singers represented the virtues of JUSTICE, FAITH, CHARITY, HOPE and WISDOM.

The two hour long program whizzed by, and brought us those same virtues by song. Justice? "God of Justice," or "Boze Pravde" brought the crowd to its feet; Faith? "Tebe Pojem," "Heruvimska Pesma," and "Vospojte" were just three of ten hymns so dedicated; Charity, Hope and Wisdom were felt in "Himna Svetom Savi," "Gori Gora," the IX and VI Rukovets by Mokranjac, and the traditional, inspirational "Onamo, Namo" and "Vostani Srbije." The audience was moved to tears with the dynamic control witnessed between the choir and its director, notes quietly wafting, drifting, or resoundingly echoing throughout the cathedral, or stopping suddenly, abruptly by an unexpected wave of the arm.

The North Transept window representing TOLERANCE has a quote from the Bible from -John 1:7: "If we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another." The majority of the audience was of Serbian extraction, but other Americans as well had heard about the program announced on Pittsburgh's educational radio station WQED, alerted by Dragan Kovacevich, director of the SNF's Cultural Department, which sponsored the choir's visit while in Pittsburgh. (The choir had been brought to America by the Yugoslav Embassy in Washington.) Although none of those American visitors could understand the words per se, they understood the music sung to the glory of the Trinity from the hearts and souls of the incredibly talented young performers and their director. The songs were rendered with unbelievable modulated tonality control. The program was absolutely superb and brought a whole new respect for our culture to those in the grateful audience.

The choir "Kir Stefan-the Serb," was founded in 1993, in Smederevo. The ages of the girls range from 14-22 years of age. Kir Stefan the Serb was a fifteenth century choirmaster and composer to the Serbian court at Smederevo.



Prince Djuradj Brankovic' built Smederevo on the banks of the Danube river in 1430, hopeful of stopping the relentless Turkish invasion of Serbia.

Not only Serbs, but other people throughout the world, have been made aware of the choir's incredible talents. In 1995, the girls and their director won the Gold Medal for the Youth Choirs of Serbia Competition. In 1996, they earned a prestigious Silver Medal in International Competition in Riva del Garda, Italy. In 1997, they won the Gold Medal in the International Smetana Choir Competition from the Czech Republic. In 1998, it was another Gold Medal from Germany. And in 1999, "our" Kir Stefan Srbin" Choir from Smederevo, Serbia, won the Gold Medal in the International Competition in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, USA! When performing at Harvard University in January 2000, the Mayor of Cambridge enthusiastically described the group as "the best one to come to his city during the past century."

When the choir finished singing the "Himna Svetom Savi," it was hard for those American Serbs in the audience to not break out in song themselves, to refrain from adding another refrain that our youngsters here know: "I mi tvoji Srpici, s' ove strane mora, Srspe krvi, imena, Spskoga govora, Slavimo te Sveti Savo, Srspe crkve, mudra glavo!" However, at the end of the concert, so moved by the magnificent performance just witnessed, the audience rose to give the group a standing ovation, and then, led by Valerie

Stepanovich Tassari, sang "Ziveli!" in appreciation as they walked single file off the stage.

Window of Truth

"And ye shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free," - John 8:32. So says the South Transept Window of TRUTH. However, not until several days after their magnificent performance in Heinz Chapel, while riding four of the girls from the choir housed with me back and forth to Pittsburgh, did I, myself, realize that their hometown of Smederevo, Serbia was bombed by NATO on the next to the last day of the 78 day war, long after NATO ran out of targets to hit.

But more bombs meant more money for the "Merchants of Death," as founder of "TRUTH IN MEDIA" director, Bob Djurdevich, of Phoenix, Arizona calls the armament suppliers. I was profoundly dumbfounded after learning on that fateful March 24, 1999 day that NATO bombed the same Serbian people who rescued over 500 American and Allied fliers during WWII. It just amazes me that our beautiful, beloved USA could have been so erroneously deceived to do this to their fellow allies of WWI and WWII. Like me, the girls described how shocked and worried their parents were for the safety of their children when bombs exploded all around them. "Everywhere was smoke and fire. I will never forget it," said one.

How could they? How could we? "We must forgive," as one of our Serbian Patriarchs said, "but we must never forget."

For the record, the girls didn't volunteer this information at all. It was only when I innocently asked, "Were any of you affected by the war?" that the TRUTH, long hidden or buried from the American public in any of our news media, came forth.

Serbian Cultural Ambassadors

The ALLEGHENY COUNTY TIMES and its sister publications, BEAVER COUNTY TIMES, wrote the headlines, "Serbian Girls Serve As Cultural Ambassadors," and that's exactly what they did. They created a positive image for Smederevo and Serbia, putting a strong, bold, proud, rich-in-culture, "this-is-who-we-are"

presence to the here-to-for FACELESS, demonized Serbia.

After a few days at Shadeland Camp in northern Pennsylvania, the choir returned to Pittsburgh to be a part of the 3-day week-end performance on Friday, July 19th, at the 85th "Serbian Days" in Pittsburgh at Kennywood Park. Those who missed the opportunity of seeing the Choir in Oakland's cultural district, were grateful to hear the girls perform two songs on the Kennywood stage bedecked with red, blue, and white bunting. The first selection was about Kosovo (this choral arrangement created by director Milan Ilic', was sung for the 1st time on the North American continent), while the other was the rousing "Vostani Srbije!"

The group traveled to New York to perform in the St. Sava Cathedral located in the heart of the city, and from there will appear on the Millennium Stage at the Kennedy Center in Washington, DC on July 23 before returning to Chicago and back home.

The girls were very appreciative of their stays in the homes of fellow Serbs. They gushed over their "never-to-be forgotten" welcome to America from the folks in Chicago who greeted them with open arms as well as lots of food and tamburitza music and dancing. I'm sure similar experiences were had in New York and Washington. While in Pittsburgh, the group visited the SNF Museum and most of the singers managed to visit Mt. Washington, overseeing the entire city at night. My group was fortunate enough to have participated in the Liturgy at St. Elijah's in Aliquippa, sing "Gori Gora" to Mom Laura Karlo at the Masonic Nursing Home in Sewickley and to Aunt Anne Astorino at the firm of L.D. Astorino & Associates, and to have visited the home of Mike and Steffie Bozic, exceptionally gracious hosts, who opened the doors to their beautiful apartment overlooking the city on such short notice. (Like ten minutes before having three cars full of people arrive! Thank you, Bozic Kumovi!)

Like the rest of us, the Bozics noted the the group's exceptional talents, the girl's utmost respect for their country, composers and their director, coupled with beautiful smiles, and a guslar par excellence, all equaled a winning combination. We were indeed fortunate to have had them in our presence.

The choir will be performing again in Seoul, South Korea, in October of this year, with 300+ other choirs from all over the world. Director Milan Ilic (who was outstanding in his solo about Hajduk Vejlko!) thinks the choir has a wonderful chance of bringing home a gold medal this year. He added that if anyone would like to help support the choir's efforts to represent Serbia internationally, all donations would be so very graciously accepted, as they are truly needed. One can only begin to understand his plea in context of thinking about Serbia's devastated economy after ten years of unjust sanctions and NATO's bombing. The website where they can be reached for a CD of your own, or to offer help financially is: <http://www.kirstefansrbin.org.yu/awards.html>.

Borislav Roganovic, *A Guslar in Heinz Chapel and Atop Mount Washington*

by Milana Karlo Bizic

Return with us to the thrilling days of yesteryear, when we bring you not Silver and the Lone Ranger, but Gold and the Guslar, Borislav Roganovic!

The first time we saw Borislav Roganovic was when he appeared at the beginning of the second half of the Kir Stefan Srbini concert in the Heinz Chapel in Pittsburgh. He didn't have to say a word before entering our hearts, as the gusle and its bow in his hands (as the old songs promised), did it for him. For Serbs, there is magic (gold!) in the sight of a gusle. We don't need a "William Tell Overture" to arouse us.

But there was more. Roganovic wore a regal bearing, head upright and shoulders back like that of the tallest, proudest of Montenegrin Serbs. He was not Roganovic, the American chauffeur from Chicago, but suddenly, the epitome of every Serbian guslar from throughout the ages. I wondered, could this trait be learned or was it in the genes?

He was costumed in an incredibly beautiful outfit as he strode across to the center of the stage, bedecked in a bright red, woolen, double-sleeved jacket (Dusanka), trimmed everywhere with gold braid, gold buttons (Germada) and gold tassels. His bright blue trousers were again trimmed with gold and were tucked inside big black boots. A colorful silk cummerbund of gold, green and white bands encircled

†Helping that sun to rise is embroidered the golden emblem of the Serbs: the four C's inside the Cross. "Samo Sloga Srbina Spasova."

Later we learned that the black boots were more of a modern convenience, as in the olden times, the guslar's feet were wound in white wrappings that took considerable time to put on. However, then the guslar's whole body represented the colors of the Serbian flag from his head to his feet: red, blue and white. Roganovic said he wore white socks beneath the boots in keeping with tradition and as a constant reminder of whom and what he represents when he's in his guslar costume.

Roganovic, who has performed his epic songs throughout the Midwestern USA Serbian communities, used his right hand to slowly cross his bow back and forth on the string of the gusle. His left hand fingers trembled up and down on the horse hair string, creating different, hauntingly beautiful sounds, similar to mournful wailings. This time it was "The Death of Mother Jugovic," and adding to my joy, an enthralled Alex Malich turned his head and whispered excitedly from his seat ahead of mine, "Who would have ever thought we'd be hearing the 1389 Kosovo Legends in Heinz Chapel?"

"No one," I quietly replied back. "Not in a hundred years could I have believed this possible." It was wonderful, and added so much to the great program overall.

Later at the Serbian club, I went over to the guslar, now in his regular clothes, to introduce myself and to tell him how much his performance meant to us and how appreciative we were; that he was our very own "Perun," in this century. He was ours, as Perun was to the early immigrant Serbs who had passed on.

Perunovich, nicknamed "Perun," was one of the most famous of all

in America amongst the Serbian immigrants. His very name was like gold! †He traveled throughout the USA in the late 1890's, the very early 1900s and WWI times, from one industrial city to another, or mining camp to gold rush towns, helping the hardworking men and women recall their ancient history and renew their strength and pride.

"You are our Perun!" I gushed.

Imagine my surprise and delight when he arose and proudly exclaimed that Perun was his mother's "ujak"-Uncle! His head and nose snapped immediately higher in the air on their



Hard working SNF Medical Relief Worker Predrag Janicijevich and Tiho hold a photo of the Montenegrin Serbs' most famous guslar in history, Njegosh, with their present guslar, Borislav Roganovic

own, by habit. Oh, the goosebumps went up and down my arm, as my hand was still in his! It was like touching a living legend! I couldn't believe it!

Roganovic told me about a treasure, a special spomenica his uncle had given to his mother and she passed on to him, a book signed by Nikola Tesla and Mihailo Pupin and some of the most famous people from around the world. I think Mark Twain was another of the many he mentioned. King Nikola of Montenegro had given Perun a pistol with a handle made from elephant tusk in 1910 that Bora now has.

"Alex, Alex!" I called. "Go get your camera! Mr. Roganovic is Perun's grand-nephew!" Alex willingly crossed the street to his home and secured his camera. Bora, our guslar, willingly went to his van and got his Narodne nosinje guslar clothes back on for some great shots. He sang for us again and I tried to record the information he was sharing.

The gusle is a one-stringed instrument wherein the music serves as punctuation for the poem, carrying on the oral tradition. There are 10 syllables and then a break after the fourth. Younger students learn from the older guslars in the village. His songs express the individuality of the Serbian community, that when he sings, it's a production, a process that determines the product. The gusle can't lie. It has its own voice. It has to tell the truth. The Serbs believe it is made from "holy" wood, that it speaks on its own. The guslars use the gusle to assist in telling their story narratives of tales of great heroes, or encounters with lovers or enemies found around the world. Bora writes many of his own songs, and gave us a copy of one example, for which we are most grateful. Some other songs he sang for us were "Kosovko Veceru," "Vladeta Voyvoda," an "Czarica Milica."

By now, the guslar who learned his craft from his shepherd father when he was in the first grade at school, was completely surrounded by admirers,

chief among them Predrag and Dr. Nenad Janicijevic and husband-wife team, Tiho and Jelena, the famous cooks at the American Serbian Club there. Tiho ran to secure the painting of Njegosh' from the walls, to add even more color to what was a most fantastic scene.

With Bora was his very handsome son, Srdjan Roganovic, who also learned to play the gusle beginning at age twelve, but hadn't practiced it much of late. However, we're quite sure that after seeing how everyone wanted their photo taken with his father, he'll be taking it up again soon. He has to, for all of us in the future. It's his Duznost!

People were talking about taking some of their visiting Kir Stefan Srbini girls up to Mt. Washington for a view on the incline, and then to the show in Homestead. I got the wild idea of calling Mike and Steffie Bozic, asking them if I could show the girls the view from their apartment atop of Mount Washington. I told them about the guslar and of course, they had loved seeing him at the performance. Again, what gracious hosts!

Mike showed Mr. Roganovic his grandfather's old gusle that he keeps in a prominent spot in their den, along with framed photos noting his grandfather in a Serb vs. Turk dramatic performance, and of his father working as a typesetter for the SRBOBRAN. Noting that the strings were missing on Mike's grandfather's instrument, Bora tried very hard to put the gusle in working order, but couldn't. He promised to repair it and send it back to Mike. He also offered to make and trade him a new one for that one, but true to his Serbian roots, Mike replied that his grandfather's gusle meant more to him than anything.

Perhaps he was recalling when his own grandfather played his gusle and sang to him the song: "Uzo deda svog unuka, metno ga na krilo, Pa iz gusle pevao mu s'to je nekad bilo. Pevao mu srpsku slava, I srpske junake, Pevao mu ljute bitke, Muke sakoake. Dedi oko



American Serb Club caretakers and food caterers Tiho and Jelena are proud to pose with guslar Borislav Roganovic and four of the girls from the Kir Stefan choir from Smederevo (Sladjana, Tamara, Tatyana and Alexandra), Srdjan Roganovic and the author, Mim Bizic.

his waist, where in days of old, the revolver once was kept handy.

On his head, it can be said, he wore the history of his country. The red cap represented the Serbian (Montenegrin) blood shed at the Battle of Kosovo in 1389. The thick, black silk band was added around the red as a constant reminder of the many heroic lives that were lost to the Turkish onslaught. The five gold semi-circles embroidered on the red cap are formed like a rising sun, each of the half-rings representing a century of subjugation before the Serbs achieved their golden freedom.

Serbian girls serve as cultural ambassadors

printed in the Allegheny Times, July 16, 2002
by Patrick O'Shea
Times Staff

Tatjana Mirkovich hopes one day the many Americans she has met over the last two weeks will have the opportunity to see her home city of Smederevo, Serbia.

"It will be nice when everyone can see our mountains," the 17 year old choir singer said Monday.

Until then, Tatjana is content to serve as a cultural ambassador along with about 25 other members of the Kir Stefan Choir, a Serbian folk choir that has been traveling through the United States performing concerts since July 1.

The choir has 65 members, but the rest could not afford to make the journey.

Tatjana, her 15 year old sister, Tamara, and Aleksandra Mitrovich and Sladjana Dakich, both 15, have been staying in the Moon Township home of Milana "Mim" Bizic, an active member of the local Serbian community and Librarian at Edgeworth Elementary School, since Saturday. They performed a concert Sunday at Heinz Chapel at the University of Pittsburgh in the Oakland section of the city.

They traveled to Moon after spending 12 days in Chicago, where they arrived from Serbia, and will be heading to New York City and then Washington, D.C., before returning home on

July 24. Their final performance will be July 23 at the John F. Kennedy Center in Washington.

The girls said they have found their first visit to America breathtaking. "It is like a dream," Tatjana said. "I had only seen such things in films."

They also praised how nicely people have treated them. Tatjana said the American teens she has met have been friendly and not much different from the Serbian girls.

"They are as good as we are," she said with a smile.

However, the Serbian girls are further ahead of many of their counterparts in planning their futures. They already are in specialized programs for their chosen careers. Aleksandra wants to be a classical musician, Tamara, a singer; Sladjana, a doctor; and Tatjana, an actress.

One thing the choir members will miss on leaving America is the wide variety of foods available. The girls giggled as they described their first meal of Mexican food, and Tatjana said she is becoming addicted to having orange juice in the morning.

Bizic said she is glad to have met the girls and helped to make their experience fun. Remembering her own similar experience on the choir tour as a teen, Bizic said, "The friendships we made then are still an important part of my life."

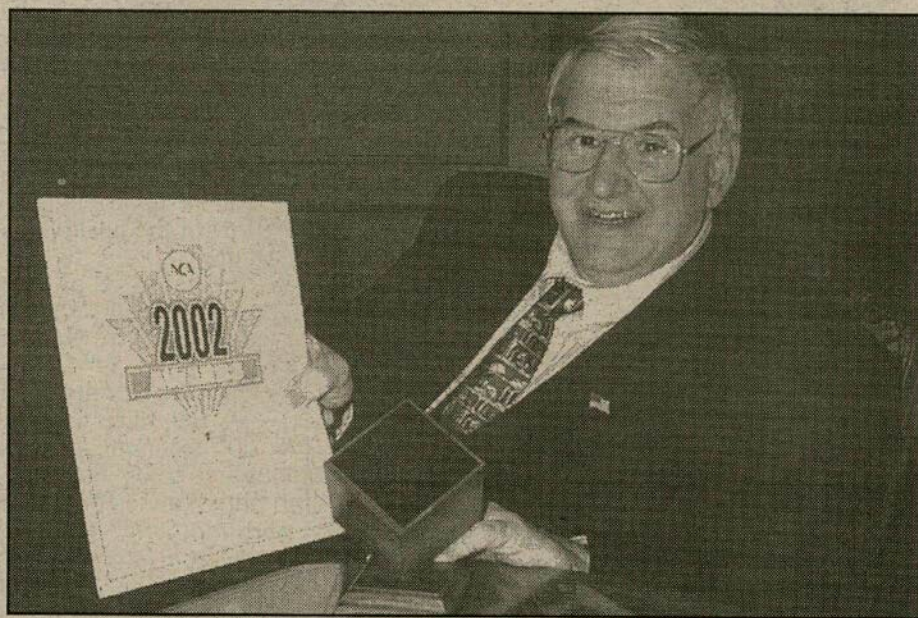
Do You Know This Paul Bielich?

by Mary Downie

We all know Paul Bielich

from Detroit whose dedication and hard work to the SSF is legendary. In fact, Paul has been Executive Secretary of the SSF for over 30 years. We also know Paul, the kind-hearted man who is committed to his church, his choir and his friends and family. We know Paul, the comedian and joke teller; Paul, the bar ticket seller; Paul, the greeter of out-of-town guests; and Paul, who can easily hold a conversation with "stare babe" and "mladici" alike. But, do you know Paul Bielich the professional? I suspect not. Let me introduce you...

Paul Bielich has been an educator with the Detroit Public Schools since 1968. Recently, he was bestowed a tremendous national honor by NCA, the North Central Association Commission on Accreditation and School Improvement. This prestigious award, the John W. Vaughn Excellence in Education Award, was presented at the national conference in Chicago. As an educator myself, it was most gratifying to be a part of this conference and to see my friend, fellow Serb, and educator receive this honor.



But, so like Paul, none of us in Detroit were aware of the magnitude of this award. And, so like Paul, he received his award and then hurried back home to take care of his mom and get back to work.

Over 1800 people witnessed Paul receiving this award. He was selected from a list of educators who made significant contributions in the field of education. And, our Paul, the one we look to for direction on choir matters, the one we easily can talk to and sing with at the bar, our Paul, was selected. Congratulations Paul! We have always been proud of your accomplishments and leadership with the SSF. We are now aware of the depth of your accomplishments in the field of education. Mnogaja Ljeta, good friend!



The author amidst two guslars, son Srdjan and father Borislav Roganovic, in front of the SNF's Centennial (1901-2001) watercolor painting done for the SNF by Yvonne Kozlina

zablistalo, pa suzu proliva,
I unuku svome rec'e, da
gusle celivo. Dete gusle
celivalo; P'onda pita zivo;
"Je li, deda, zasto sam ja te
gusle celivo?" "Ti ne s'a-
vatas', Srpc'e malo. Mi
stariji znamo! Kad
doras'tes, kad razmis'lis',
Kaz' ce ti se samo!"

The Serbs kept their history and values alive by poems sung on the gusle like this one:

The Death of the Guslar

by Isidor Bajic
(1878-1915)

In the west the sun has
fallen
On the sheer stone cliffs,
Bursting into a myriad
Of precious stones.
And in the sky numberless
Stars begin to shine,
Just as on earth twinkle
and glisten the
Tears of the sorrowing
peasantry.
Why doth the peasantry
Shed tears so ceaselessly?
Topal Pasha has lain to
bed,
But sleep will not come.
The pasha leaps, as he
wipes his brow
The devil tears at his soul.
A name of glory! A proud
name,
For that does Topal yearn.
"I hate wealth, I despise
gold
All is black and darkness.
Topal Pasha wants a song
Wants a glorious name!
Gusle! Gusle! Rajo, rajo,
Those cursed bandits,
brigands
Must you name be
glorified and sung
You wolves of the
mountains?
Should Topal harken
to the song that
Eternity prepares for
him?"
Ah, but that pasha,
Topal Pasha,
Has no such singer of
his own.
This is the pasha
madly shouting
Torn by desire.

"Ho, there! All Turks!
Prepare a manifestation
of joy.
Bring unto me the old
man Mirko,
Why is he not here yet?
Bring unto me that guslar
With the divine strings.
Let him sing for me,
let him glorify me,
Glory is divine.
Yesterday I put to death
all four of his sons."
The blind one sits clasping
His gusle to his bosom.
The Turks sing,
Shout all in rapturous
orgy.
The Turks drink, Topal
drinks not,
He thrusts away the
goblet.
He strides forward,
His steps all a tremble
The blind man sits
Holding his gusle to
his breast
His long grey hair falling
And covering his tears.
"Avast, you Dog!
No, not that way,
rather this,
My dear old timer."
In whose hands lie
the gusle
In him lies the strength.
"Let me hear how sounds
the glory
Of my greatness.
I will free from the
dungeon
All four of your sons."
He lies.
Trembling, the blind man
Attempts to play his gusle.
A nauseating lump of his
first utterance
Stuck in his bosom, tears
flow,
Wetting the gusle.
The guslar falls,
menacingly shakes his
Gusle at the pasha, and
dashes it to pieces
As he collapses and dies.
They have razed and
destroyed
Our worldly goods
They have harvested our
hopesa
But the gusle, the Serbian
gusle,
Knows not how to lie.



Tidbits of Serbiana

by Paul Pavlovich

#30

1 For quite a while now, I have been disturbed by the Serb warlike nature throughout our history and up until our own days. Look over our tragic history and count all the wars, uprisings, revolutions... that we took part in and you will see what disturbs me. If you can, add all of the suffering, death, destruction, despair... that the Serb people had to cope with on all of those occasions when we so generously sent our menfolk into war battles and see the results you get. Compare the losses to the gains from all of that warring and see what conclusions you come to.

At the conclusion of the above investigation, ask yourself: why did we Serbs all along persist in glorifying acts of heroism, heroic deaths in battle, and all other related actions, feelings, symbols... having to do with our struggles for statehood, independence and freedom. Did we not pay an enormously high price considering our losses and our meagre gains? Is it possible that with better diplomacy, skillful negotiations and the greater economic advances through history, we would have accomplished more, saved untold lives and possibly achieved our goals sooner and more successfully? Take WWII for example. Instead of fighting Hitler's Germany, had we submitted to the German demands, kept our heads and had we waited for the end of the War, we would have been much better off. A number of countries of Europe stayed out of the War. For example, Sweden was neutral and saved itself, yet it was then, and is today one of the most respected countries of Europe. I don't believe that Sweden was ever resented for staying out of the War. We not only entered the War on the side of the West, we also fought a civil war amongst ourselves: Chetniks vs. Partizans. What did we get out of it?

And thus, thinking about the above-mentioned concerns and sometimes writing about the same, I met a history professor at the University of Belgrade, Radosh Ljushich, who visited Toronto early in 2002. In March of this year, I interviewed the same Dr. Ljushich and when asked about this

Serb warlike nature, the professor, among other comments, had this to say: "It is a fact that in the 19th and the 20th centuries we had many wars; it seems that every fifth year was a war year (1804-13, 1815, 1831-32, 1876-78, 1885, 1912-13, 1914-18, 1941-45, 1991-99). Wars became our destiny and that brought us many worries and many tragic consequences. Let me try to illustrate what I mean. During the First and the Second Serbian Uprisings (1804-15), 21% of all Serbs died; during WWI (1914-18), 29% died, while during WWII (1941-45), possibly even more died—we still do not have accurate estimates. Many other events during these wars, such as various population shifts and migrations, caused three Serb population demographic catastrophes. Without the above losses, Serbs in the Balkans would today number at least 20 million instead of only half that number. "Is it possible that with much more prudent politics, we could have avoided the WWI and WWII losses?" asked the professor. My answer to that question is in the affirmative and the more I think about it, the more I feel that Serbs must change the ways in which they conduct their national affairs and their international relations. How is one to do that or who is to spearhead that change in the national behaviour of Serbs is another story or another problem. However, that problem is of such importance that Serbs better give it all possible attention and the sooner the better.

2 Now that I started with the above disturbing concern, let me give you another one, although it is a frivolous one by comparison. Why is it that the readers of the American Srbobran seldom react to the articles printed in it? Why not many more letters to the editor of the paper? Why not express views, critical opinions, praise or anything else on one's mind - all of it would make the efforts of the paper's contributors much more enjoyable and meaningful.

On a few occasions, I even solicited readers' views and comments and nothing happened! Why not? Why the apathy? I am sure that the readers' contributions would enhance the general flow of the positive energy within the Serb community.

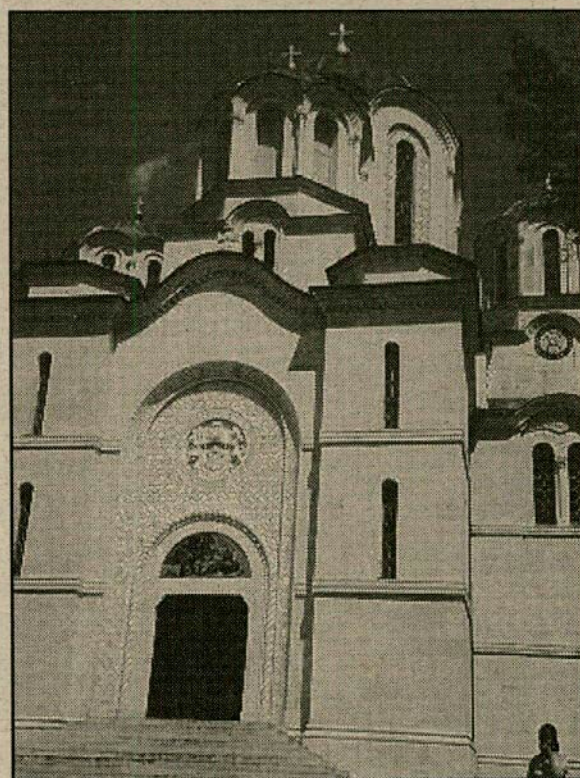
In the future, please react, write, dialogue, send us your views and let's make the exchange of ideas a part of American Srbobran life.

3 The month of June 2002 I have spent in Belgrade and Novi Sad. These trips are becoming an annual affair with me and I rather enjoy them. For visiting the old country with American or Canadian dollars is still fairly comfortable: generally, the prices of various goods and services are still quite low for us with dollars while the same prices for the locals are painfully high.

I still have a few relatives alive and it is still fun seeing them when they are not overly preoccupied complaining and criticizing everybody and everything in sight. The most efficient way to shut them up and have them come alive is to take them out to dinner: they can rarely afford dinners out themselves these days, while for us they amount to between \$8 and \$12 per person. Very reasonable, enjoyable and appreciated by all. Food is generally good, service is very good and even small tips are more than welcome.

Otherwise what irritates me more than anything is a constant overabundance of Serb pride, stubbornness, self-importance, boastfulness, and individualism... one finds with almost all the people:

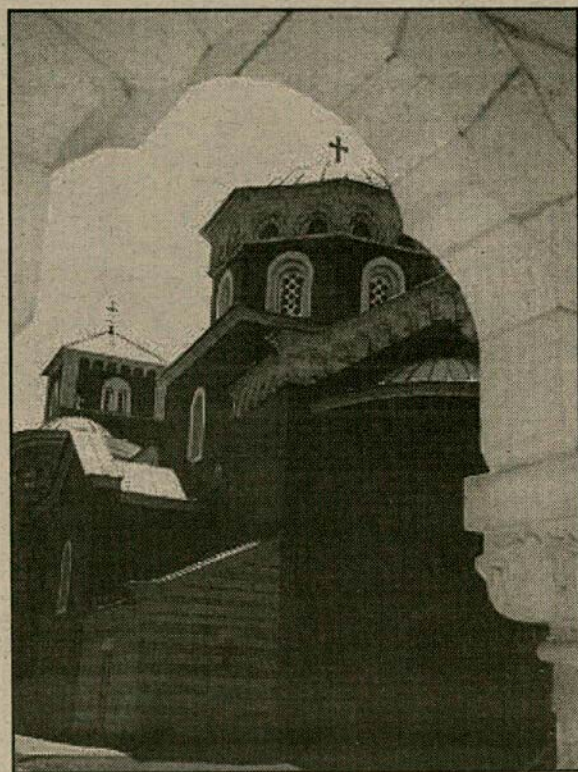
those who have reasons to be behaving this way and those who make themselves seem foolish with such behavior; especially when you start talking politics whether domestic or international. They all know everything! They all are convinced that their positions and views are the correct ones and that you had better not oppose them or you will cause much unhappiness. Very seldom is there a fair and productive exchange of views, positions, facts and/or an exchange of experiences which could benefit both sides.



Oplenats

For example. Their vitriolic anti-Americanism knows no bounds: instead of blaming Clinton, Albright... U.S. administration for its criminal anti-Serb views and actions, they are all over the Americans. Americans this, Americans that, and of course, the New World Order is seen as the American demon casting its shadow over the whole world and causing all the unbelievable criminal behaviour. There is almost no use trying to infuse any sense of proportion or sanity into any discussions, especially after a couple of drinks; everything is so "obvious", "blatant", so "in your face" that it pains. Obviously, there are exceptions to the above described conditions, however, they are so rare that one comes away with an overwhelming sense of frustration..

4 If you choose to spend a few days treating yourself to a very satisfying experience, go visit a number of Serb medieval monasteries! That is what I did, again, after so many earlier visits. During the long years of my research for my book, *The History of the Serbian Orthodox Church*, my family and I spent many a pleasant day visiting Serbian monasteries throughout Serbian lands - from Gomirje in the west to Studenitsa in the east. This time around, my friend had a car and I had enough money for the gas and thus, we teamed up and ended up visiting the monasteries of Studenitsa, Zhicha, Lyubostinya, and the St. George's Church/



Zhicha



Tidbits of Serbiana

by Paul Pavlovich

Mausoleum, the Karageorgevich family's resting place at Oplenats some 80 km south of Belgrade.

One of these days, I must do a series of stories on the individual monasteries, however, now, let me offer you just a line or two about the four we visited.

In the central part of Serbia, southwest of the city Kraljevo you find the monastery of Studenitsa, known as the "Mother of Serbian monasteries". It was built by the Serb ruler, founder of the Nemanya dynasty, Stephen Nemanya (1159-1196), who erected the main church dedicated to the Mother of God in the 12th century. The wall paintings or frescoes date from 1208-09 while the small King's Church in the courtyard of the monastery was built by King Milutin (1282-1321) in the 14th century.

Nearby the monastery, there is a very nice motel which can be used as a base and from which several other monasteries in the area can be easily reached.

Even closer to the city of Kraljevo, you will find the monastery of Zhicha from the 13th century built by Nemanya's son, Stephen "The First Crowned" (1196-1228). Its exterior is painted with a most peculiar colour, not quite purple but a colour that is between Indian red and maroon. This was the colour of the purple palace in Constantinople where Stephen's wife, princess Eudocia was born and where she lived. In the early life of the Serbian Orthodox Church, Zhicha was its seat and in it, Serb medieval Kings were crowned as well. St. Sava consecrated his first Serb bishops here and crowned his brother Stephen as a King. The main church of the monastery was dedicated to Our Lord the Saviour or Crkva Svetog Spasa in Serbian.

East of the city of Kraljevo, and a few kilometers northeast of a small town called Trstenik, you will find the monastery of Lyubostinya. This beautiful monastery was founded in 1394 as a convent church by Milica (Militsa), widow of Prince Lazar (1371-89) of Kosovo fame. In this retreat, Militsa intended to house all the widows of her husband's commanders who perished at the Battle of Kosovo in 1389.

It is a beautiful monastery, well worth a visit!

On the way back to Belgrade, my friend and I stopped at the town of Topola, south of Belgrade, to visit the Oplenats (Oplenac) Mausoleum where the members of the Karageorgevich family are buried. The Mausoleum church was originally built in 1910-12, reconstructed after WWI (1914-18) while the interior decorations, all in mosaic tile, were completed only in 1930.

Instead of the traditional frescoes, all of the interior walls are completely covered with mosaic tile representing scenes and copies of the most famous frescoes from the other famous Serb medieval monasteries. What an incredibly impressive sight!

The first floor of the building is reserved for



Studenitsa

church services and ceremonies while the floor beneath it is the burial chamber or crypt where the members of the Karageorgevich royal family are interred. Outside, the walls of the St. George church are covered with white marble making it extraordinarily bright looking on a sunny day. Being only some 1.5 hours drive from Belgrade, it can and should be visited whenever one is visiting there, especially in light of the fact that the same Karageorgevich family might become again the Serbian royal family.

5 In item #2 of this article, I spoke about the lack of feedback from our readers, the lack of readers' commentary regarding our writing and our ideas in it. Here I have a case in point.

The April 3, 2002 issue of the Srbobran carried a piece by Nikola Rajkovic called Serbdom in the 21st Century which cried for some reaction: either supportive or otherwise. Come on readers! Maybe the editorial staff of the paper have heard some comments re the ideas in the article, but, nothing reached the print.

Nikola is a young and an incredibly intelligent Canadian Serb representing Canada on the Diaspora Council formed in Belgrade by the Serbian government. His three main arguments in the piece were: you can be a Serb living outside the Serbian lands; you can be a Serb and not speak the Serbian language or speak it poorly; and the third idea was: in light of the first two propositions, we need to redefine or expand the definition of Serbian culture. For us living in the so-called Serb diaspora and for the diaspora-born generations of our offspring, the above issues are of tremendous importance and the ideas should elicit some responses.

A number of people living in Belgrade responded negatively to the above ideas during my June visit there.

As I generally support Nikola's views, I was disturbed by the Belgrade criticism of the same and here is why.

If one looks back into history, one will find times when Serbian people were at similar crossroads: there were the times when Serbs debated

what was to be done with Roman Catholic Serbs and the Serbs who followed the faith of Islam. We obviously boomed in both cases for we lost tens of thousands of Serbs in both of these two groups. Basically our Serbian stubbornness and inflexibility, our parochialism and lack of vision made us turn those people away! To this day I cringe when I hear: every Serb must follow the Orthodox faith, have Slava, speak the Serbian language...

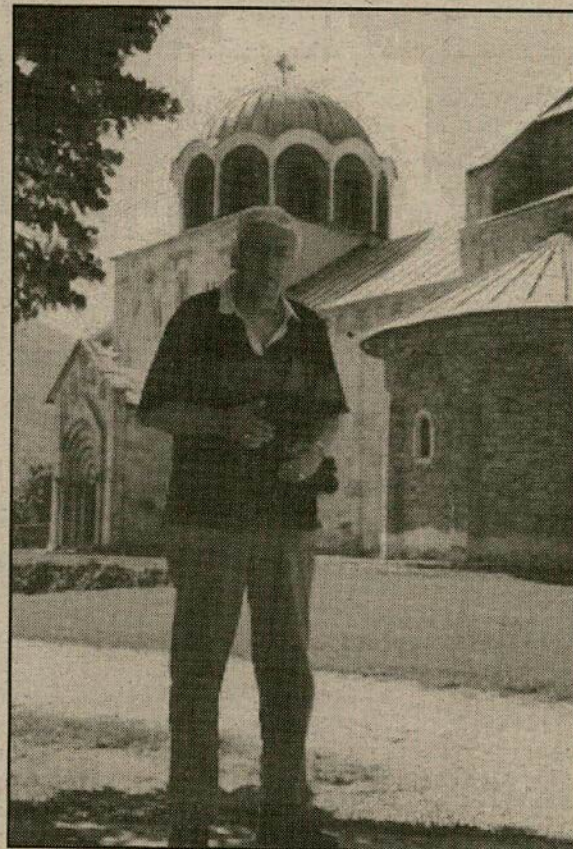
Thus, when my Belgrade friends again demanded that every Serb must speak the Serbian language I turned purple! My friends, all intellectuals, spoke about the issue of Serb language in diaspora as if they live in it and are faced with the problem on a daily basis. On the contrary, none of them ever lived

under diaspora conditions, and it was very plain and obvious that they did not have a clue about life in diaspora and yet, their pronouncements were firmly formed, definite and so irritating.

My trying to explain the reasons for Nikola's views led us nowhere and I am afraid that most Serbs would be just as adamant about the issues and that, obviously, will lead us nowhere.

What do you think? Did you see Nikola's piece and how did you react to it then and what do you think now about the issues he raises?

Would I ever like to hear from you!



Studenitsa



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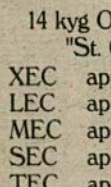
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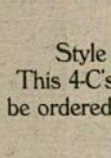
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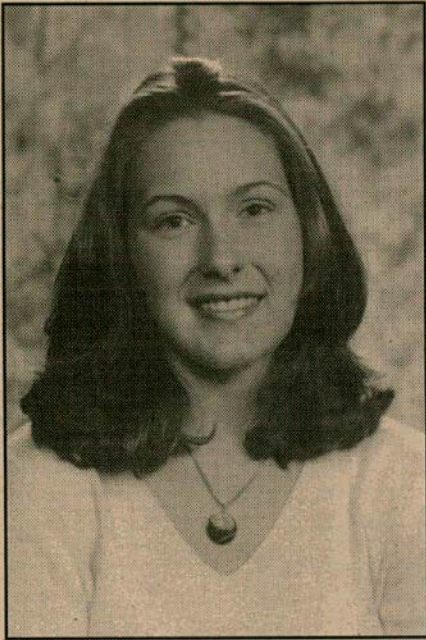
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3684 Tiffany Lane
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Lodge #68

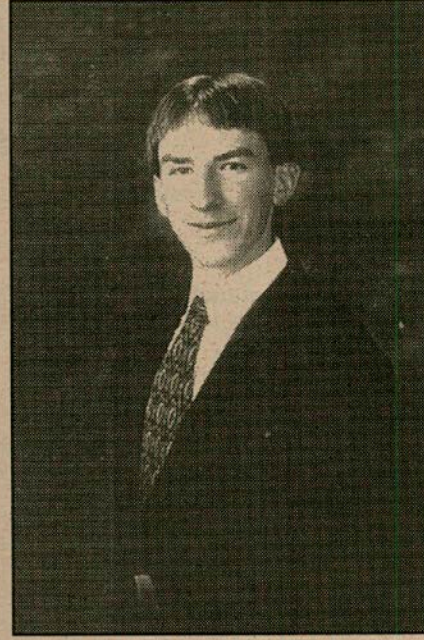
Kristina is the daughter of Samuel and Debra Bellich. She will attend Penn State University for Secondary Education with a focus in Computer Science.



Milana Capuzzi
111 Shara Drive
West Mifflin, PA 15122

Lodge #163

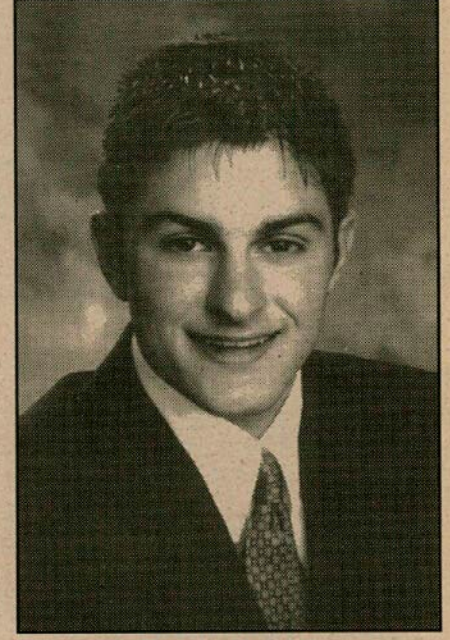
She is the daughter of Donna and Frank Capuzzi. Milana plans to study Music Education at Duquesne University.



Theodore Chadwick
2334 Rockwell Street
LaCrescenta, CA 91214

Lodge #85

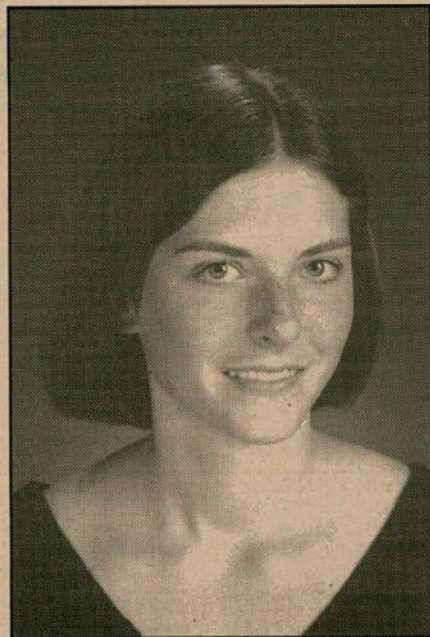
He is the son of Christopher and Adele Chadwick. Theodore will attend the University of Southern California for Political Science/Prelaw.



Dustin Defebo
1241 Prospect Road
Pittsburgh, PA 15227

Lodge #6

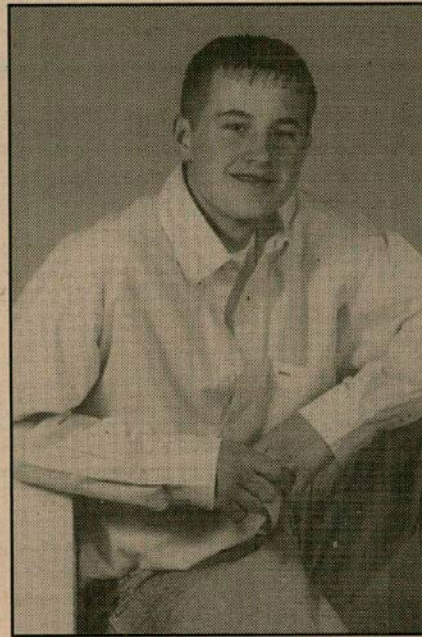
Dustin is the son of Guy and Darlene Defebo. He plans to attend Ohio University at Athens.



Sally Kathleen Head
3311 Calvanno Drive
Grand Island, NY 14072

Lodge #53

Sally is the daughter of Kathleen Head. She will attend Harvard University to study Biology.



John Jovanovich
970 Braddock Road
Pittsburgh, PA 15221

Lodge #7

He is the son of Dan and Linda Jovanovich. He plans to study Engineering and Pennsylvania State University.



Jennifer Marie Mate
6265 Yorktown Drive
Parma, OH 44134

Lodge #15

Jennifer is the daughter of Louis and Maria Mate. She plans to study Business Management at Marietta College.



Katie Susan Masich
1225 Third Avenue
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Lodge #75

She is the daughter of Barbara Marx and Bob Masich. Katie plans to attend the University of St. Thomas for Advertising/Public Relations.

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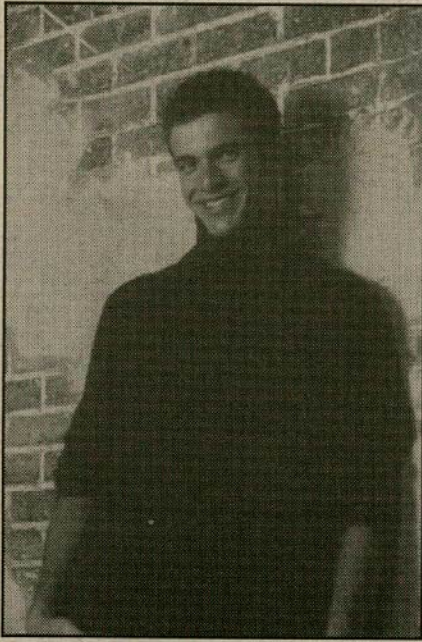
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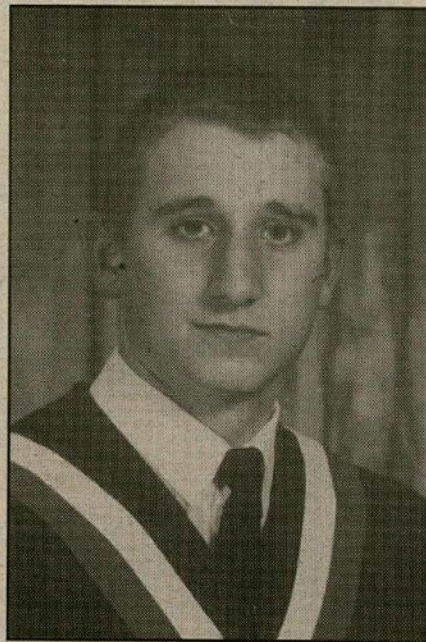
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Nicholas J. Melvan
2905 Brendon Way
Waukesha, WI 53188

Lodge #195

Nicholas is the son of John Melvan and Linda Laborde. He plans to study Pre Medicine/Biology at Loyola University in Chicago.



Petar Seslija
12040 St. Thomas Cr.
Tecumseh, Ontario,
Canada N8N3W7

Lodge #345

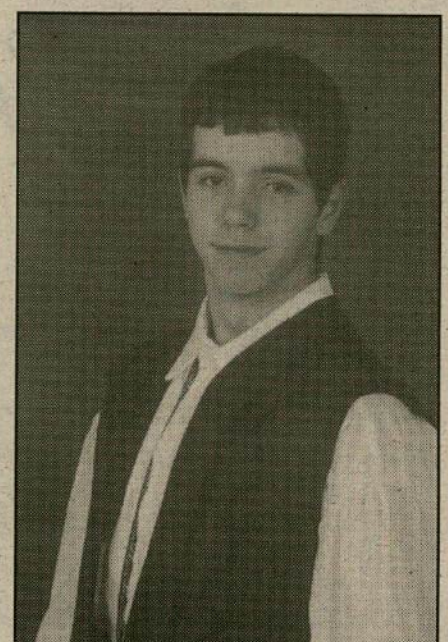
He is the son of Manojlo and Sharon Seslija. Petar plans to attend the University of Windsor to study Electrical Engineering.



Rebecca Ann Sluss
6628 Rockledge Drive
Brookville, OH 44141

Lodge #15

Rebecca is the daughter of James and Carol Sluss. She plans to study Chemistry at Ohio State University or Miami University.



George Yovetich
841 MacArthur Drive
N. Huntingdon, PA 15642

Lodge #64

George is the son of Mark and Joyce Yovetich. He plans to attend Duquesne University to study Music Technology.



Aleksandra Bojovic
134 West Elmview Avenue
Lackwanna, NY 14218

Lodge #248

Aleksandra will be a senior at Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio. She is planning to apply for Law School.

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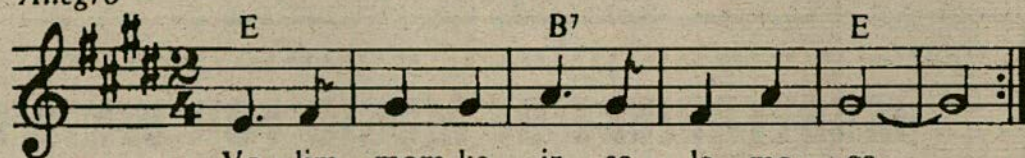
Song of the Week

A selection compiled and edited by Danny Kukich from the Serbian song book "Songs of the Week." Copies are available for \$20 by writing the SNF Home Office, One Fifth Avenue, 7th Floor, Pittsburgh, PA 15222.

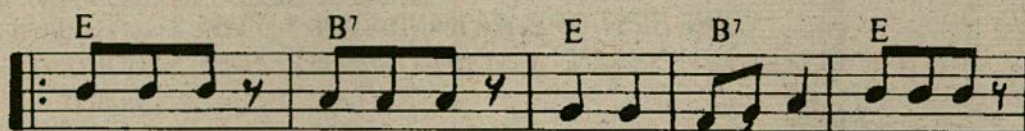
Compiled/Edited by
- Danny Kukich

VOLIM MOMKA IZ SELA MOGA

Allegro



Vo - lim mom-ka iz se - la mo - ga
Ko - ji me - ne ne - će da gle - da



mła-da sam le - pa sam ne-znam šta ću ja-ra-ne



dra- ga-ne gde su o - či tvo - je

Volim momka iz sela moga
Koji mene neće da gleda
Mlada sam lepa sam neznam šta ću
Jarane dragane gde su oči tvoje

Jednog dana sretoh dragog ja
Pogleda ga tužna žalosna
Mlada sam lepa sam neznam šta ću
Jarane dragane gde su oči tvoje

Pogledaše oči njegove
Gle lepote u selu mome
Mlada je lepa je neznam šta ću
Hoćeš li poći ti zame ljubavi

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Annual Member Banquet

Friday, September 20
American Serbian Club
Honoring Local Musicians
Entertainment by Lira of Detroit
More Details Next Issue

Help wanted – COMMERCIAL AVENUE BOOK OF MEMORIES

Ljubi Hayden of Lansing, IL, is compiling a book of memories for her mother Sophie Popovich Ostoich. Sophie has just relocated from the old family homestead at 9744 Commercial Avenue. For years, the house was sort of a second Serbian Hall, sitting caddy-corner from the St. Archangel Michael parish on Chicago's East Side and nearly directly across the street from the legendary tavern known as Roddy's Hanger or Rafter.

"Do you know how many GIs passed through that place?" asked Kum Wally Tomich of Michigan.

For many young people now grown old, the Popovich home was a gathering place of conversation and song and a frequent stop on any visit to South Chicago. Nikola and Ljubica Popovich raised their family there after relocating from out West.

After hearing her Kum Wally's comment, Ljubi decided to seek out as many people as possible who would be willing to write to her about their memories of being at the "Popeye's" house. She will assemble the collection of memories in a book for her mother.

Write to Ljubi at 18900 Wildwood Avenue, Lansing, IL 60438 or Ljubi49@aol.com.

Ближе се председнички избори, а они треба да донесу и одговор на можда чудно питање:

Да ли је демократија стварно победила у Србији?

Милошевић је у Хагу, али његов изборни закони важе и даље. Није још познат списак кандидата. А шта је важније - за кога гласати или ко ће имати право да гласа? Да ли су Срби са Косова дијаспора? Хоће ли Срби из дијаспоре моћи да гласају?

И ова су питања важна као и прво. Питања много, а времена мало. Још једно питање стиже преко океана, а у вези са силним расправама, општом неслогом и незадовољством које може да експлодира сваки час:

Хоће ли и Србија да победи на изборима?

"Американски Србобран" пратиће изборе и своје читаоце држати у току догађаја.

Дијаспора жели да гласа

Конгрес српског уједињења затражио је, поводом предстојећих председничких избора у Србији, да се изборно право бирача стално настањених изван СРЈ може остварити у дипломатско-конзуларним представништвима у иностранству, уколико то није забрањено законима земаља у којима живе.

Како је рекла потпредседница КСУ и Савета дијаспоре Јасмина Вујић на конференцији за новинаре, затражено је да Скупштина Србије размотри амандман по коме би наши држављани у дијаспори, уколико је то забрањено законима земаља у којима живе, могли да остваре право гласа у најближој суседној земљи - директно, путем писма, или по овлашћењу.

Дијаспора тражи промену изборног закона у Србији

Требало је да прође скоро три месеца, па да се неко из званичне југословенске администрације одазове захтевима Савета за дијаспору који се тичу држављанства, права гласа, учешћа у креирању уставне повеље и регулисања војне обавезе. Потпредседник Савезне владе и министар за економске односе са иностранством др Мирољуб Лабус први је функционер који је примио некога из Савета дијаспоре у неформалну посету и једини од оних којима је крајем априла стигло писмо са конкретним захтевима наших људи у расејању. На овај корак Лабус се одлучио само дан пошто је обелоданио своју кандидатуру на изборима за председника Србије

- Пренето на 24 -

Гласају и Срби са Косова

Расељена лица са Косова и Метохије биће уписана у бирачке спискове према месту боравка.

У протеклој деценији гласови бирача са Косова и Метохије више пута били су пресудни у очувању социјалиста на власти. На пример, да није било 400 хиљада Албанаца који су наводно гласали за Милана Милутиновића, он можда никада не би постао председник Републике. Србија се припрема за нове председничке изборе, а Слободан Антонић, политички аналитичар, ових дана јавности је предочио могућност да опет неко злоупотреби гласове са Космета.

У протеклим временима говорило се да на Космету има милион гласача. Данас се поставља питање да ли ће Србима који живе на подручју Косова и Метохије бити омогућено да гласају, да ли ће и у ком броју на предстојеће председничке изборе у Србији изаћи и Албанци и да ли ће, како и где, гласати расељени са Космета.

Републичка изборна комисија је разматрала питање како ће Срби са Косова и Метохије и расељена лица у Србији гласати на предстојећим председничким изборима. Љиљана Шантић, секретар Републичке изборне комисије, каже да је већ оформљена радна група која ће о томе прецизно да извести општинске комисије. Избори ће бити на оним бирачким местима на којима постоје бирачки спискови. Још траје рок за састављање бирачких спискова, али ће право гласа имати сви расељени Срби, као што су га имали за време прошлогodiшњих новембарских избора за парламент Космета.

По њеним речима, "постоји упутство Министарства правде, локалне самоуправе, да се расељена лица уписују у бирачки списак према месту боравка".

У току јучерашњег дана портпарол ОЕБС-а за митровички регион Бернард Врбан изјавио је да свако са простора Косова и Метохије има право да гласа на изборима за председника Србије и да ти избори морају протећи у толерантној атмосфери.

Да су Срби са Космета спремни да изађу на гласање потврдио је Оливер Ивановић, члан

Председништва Скупштине Косова. - Срби са Космета ће сигурно учествовати на изборима за председника Србије 29. септембра, само је техничко питање када ће о томе бити донета одлука Републичке изборне комисије УНМИК-а, изјавио је Ивановић.

- Истина, УНМИК може да се понаша као посматрач, али то неће спречити Србе да дају глас за правог човека који ће водити Србију, додао је Ивановић.

Поводом изјаве премијера Косова Бајрама Реџепаја да Срби са Косова неће моћи да гласају за председника Србије, Ивановић је рекао: "Председник Владе Косова Бајрам Реџепа се вероватно није отрезнио и не схвата да се налази у Републици Србији, јер, како ствари стоје, он ће све мање живети у независном, а све више у зависном Косову".

Републичка изборна комисија има јединствени бирачки списак на ЦД-у од прошлих избора који се сада ажурира.

Како пише у "Збирци прописа о избору председника Републике", до 14. септембра у поноћ Републичкој изборној комисији мора да буде достављено решење о закључењу бирачког списка, а објављивање укупног броја бирача у "Службеном гласнику" планирано је за 15. септембар. Објављивање коначног броја бирача уследиће до 26. септембра, значи, три дана пре избора, објављивањем списка у "Службеном гласнику Републике Србије".

Љ Милисављевић

Милошевић за Шешеља

На предстојећим изборима у Србији, заказаним за 29. септембар, читав опозициони блок треба да наступи заједно са заједничким кандидатом Војиславом Шешељем, наводи се у факсу који је 11. августа био достављен Танјугу, с потписом бившег председника СРЈ Слободана Милошевића. СПС је затим престала да скупља потписе за Милошевићеву кандидатуру.



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Professional discretion will be used in condensing submitted material when space is at a premium.

АКТУЕЛНОСТИ

Приређује Б.М.

Главни проблеми на Балкану

Нерешена питања на простору бивше Југославије успоравају европску интеграцију, оценио је премијер Србије, Зоран Ђинђић, у Салцбургу где су недавно на неформалним разговорима "Стабилност у југоисточној Европи у 21. веку" учествовали премијери Србије, Албаније, Бугарске, Македоније, Румуније и Босне и Херцеговине. Ђинђић је рекао да би требало пронаћи заједничку европску стратегију за решавање преосталих отворених питања. Он је нагласио да тренутно на Балкану постоје два велика проблема, а то су два протектората, Косово и Босна и Херцеговина.

Донаторска конференција инвеститора из САД
Председница скупштине Србије, Наташа Мићић, изјавила је по повратку из САД да ће се на јесен у Београду одржати донаторска конференција америчких инвеститора. Мићићева је предводила делегацију скупштине Србије у осмодневној посети Вашингтону. У међувремену, министар финансија Србије, Божидар Ђелић, рекао је да би Југославија на јесен могла да добије статус најповлашћеније земље у трговини са САД. Он је навео да је у Конгресу већ почела та процедура која би довела до укидање највећег дела царине за производе из Југославије.

Југословенско-бугарска сарадња

На разговорима између југословенских и бугарских представника размотрено је питање изградње пута Софија-Ниш и потписивање споразума о слободној трговини. Такође се размотрила могућност унапређења граничног режима, траспорта и економске размене.

Осумњичени председник

Председник Црне Горе, Мило Ђукановић, коментаришући информације из медија да ће га

италијански правосудни органи званично обавестити о покретању истраге против њега у вези са дуванском афером, то је демантовао и рекао да до сада није добио никакав позив од италијанског правосудја.

Обнова путева у Србији

Веће република Савезне скупштине Југославије потврдило је договор о зајму Европске инвестиционе банке за реконструкцију путева у Србији од 95 милиона евра. Према речима потпредседника Савезне владе, Мирољуба Лабуса, у том послу, који ће бити завршен за две године, прикључиће се додатна средства Европске банке за обнову и развој, тако да ће бити обновљено 850 километара путева.

Изручење Милутиновића?

Европска штампа наводи да расписивање председничких избора у Србији отвара пут за изручење садашњег председника Србије Милана Милутиновића, за три месеца након што му истекне мандат. Милутиновић је заједно са Милошевићем оптужен за ратне злочине. Међутим, неки европски листови почињу да указују на раскорак и необјективан став Хашког суда због далеко већег броја оптужених Срба у односу на друге националности на простору бивше Југославије.

Условљена поново америчка помоћ?

Према новинској агенцији "Бети" потпредседник владе Србије, Небојша Човић, који је почетком августа провео три дана у Вашингтону, изјавио је да се поново потеже питање о могућем даљем условљавању америчке помоћи Југославији. Један од главних услова које САД постављају Београду за добијање финансијске помоћи је озбиљнија сарадња са Хашким судом, а додат је и предлог да српске влада утиче на Србе на Косову да се укључе у косовске институције и да настоји да смири Србе у Косовској Митровици. Човић је указао да од јануара 2002. године није дата никаква финансијска помоћ, а она која је раније долазила ишла је по инерцији.

Захтев да се уклони застава СПЦ

Немачки војници Кфора, који обезбеђују манастир Свети Архангели код Призрена, од тамошњих монаха свакодневно захтевају да са манастирског звоника уклоне заставу Српске православне цркве, објашњавајући да представља "политичку провокацију". Епархија је у саопштењу навела да би се црквена застава на звоник, недалеко од Призрена, можда могла и разумети као "провокација" да широм Косова и Метохије, а посебно на простору Призрена, нису истакнуте хиљаде државних застава Републике Абаније и на стотине америчких, немачких и других међународних застава.

Нови односи са Хрватском

Председник Југославије, Војислав Коштуница поводом седме годишњице егзодуса Срба из бивше Републике Српске Крајине изјавио да би требало свима да буде јасно да Југославија и Хрватска морају градити своје односе на здравим и трезвеним основама. Коштуница је додао да се ту не ради о неким идеалистичким и празним причама о братству и јединству, него о пристојним суседским односима где се поштују основна правила понашања међу цивилизованим светом. Он је закључио да "наши избегли сународници морају имати право да се врате у оно што је

њихово или да то своје продају и овде изграде нормалан живот, не потуцајући се попут бескућника, јер нису бескућници. Матица је дужна да им у томе помогне."

Прогон Срба на Косову

Епископ рашко-призренски, Артемије, оценио је, поводом најновијег уништавања пет српских кућа у селу Клокот, да Срби на Косову и Метохији "никада неће имати мира и слободу кретања док год се терористи слободно крећу и уништавају српске куће и светиње." Минирање српских кућа представља деманти оцено шефа УНМИК-а, Михаела Штајнера, о добром стању на Косову, коју је недавно изнео у Уједињеним нацијама.

Напади на Србе на Косову

Шеф посланичког клуба српске коалиције "Повратак", Рада Трајковић, пренела је одлучност америчког сектора Кфора да пронађе починиоце минирања пет српских кућа у селу Клокот и рањавања двојице америчких војника и једног српског цивила. Кфор је изразио забринутост због изузетно софистицираних експлозивних средстава и модерне методе активирања.

Повратак - мртво слово на папиру

Потпредседник владе Србије, Небојша Човић, рекао је на седници Савета безбедности УН да реализација повратка Срба на Косово остаје мртво слово на папиру. Он је подсетио на чињеницу да су Срби на делу своје територије постали мањина и да су на Косову Србима ускраћена основна људска права. Човић је указао да је пацификација Косова и Метохије узалудан посао, ако планинским превојима у покрајину стижу нове количине још модернијег оружја.

Коштуничин интервју

Председник Југославије, Војислав Коштуница, дао је интервју новинској агенцији Бета у којем је између осталог рекао: да је пропуштен редослед потеза који би био државотворан - да се питање односа Србије и Црне Горе реши ваљаним уставним документом, држава учврсти изборима за своје највише органе, уставу Србије и Црне Горе доведу у склад са Уставном повељом и тек потом распишу избори. Међутим, страначки обзир су претегнули... Он сматра да су избори спорни, пре свега зато што ће бити спроведени по Милошевићевом уставу и прописима. Коштуница је изразио оптимизам у погледу опстанка заједничке државе Србије и Црне Горе и да у том погледу постоји подршка међународне заједнице. Поводом одузимања свих 45 мандата Демократске странке Србије у скупштини, Коштуница је рекао да не "види разлику између оних који отимају имовину и оних који отимају мандате, с тим што иза мандата стоји нешто много јаче, воља народа".

Ђинђићу награда

Премијеру Србије, Зорану Ђинђићу, додељена угледна награда Чешке Републике за успешно спровођење транзиције у државама Источне Европе.

Умрлице за нестала лица

Породице које су 1999. године пријавиле нестала лица Хашком суду моћи ће да добију званичне умрлице за та лица, изјавио портпарол УНМИК-а за Косовску Митровицу Ђорђи Какук.

САД траже заштиту од међународне правде

Потпис или казна

Румунија потписала, сада је на реду Југославија. Вашингтон жели споразум са СРЈ. Истовремено, тражи се пуна сарадња Београда са Хашким трибуналом. Европа огорчена, али Европа није суперсила и не одлучује као САД.

Непотписивање "заштитног споразума" могло би да блокира приступ "Партнерству за мир".

Коштуница: "Амерички захтев подрива међународни правни поредак".

Бушова администрација покренула је иницијативу да се са СР Југославијом потпише међународни споразум којим ће се власти у Београду обавезати да пред новим Међународним кривичним судом (МКС) неће покретати поступке за евентуалне злочине америчких војних или цивилних представника на југословенској територији. Конкретно, реч је о америчким припадницима мисије Кфора у покрајини Косово, која је формално-правно и даље у саставу СРЈ, премда је Резолуцијом 1244 Савета безбедности, из 1999, претворена у међународни протекторат који је, практично, под цивилним управом и војном контролом УН.

Међународни споразум о заобилажењу МКС Америка је потписала са Румунијом, преговори о истој врсти заштите за припаднике Сфора почели су већ и са владом БиХ, а предстоје и са свим осталим земљама у којима су САД, на овај или онај начин, ангажоване у међународним мировним операцијама. У разговору за СЕНСЕ, амбасадор Пјер Проспер, задужен у Стејт департменту за сектор ратних злочина, најавио је преговоре и са властима у Београду о споразуму.

Сталне консултации

"Планирамо да са свим државама, у којима су ангажовани наши људи, постигнемо споразум о разумевању, којим ће се поштовати наша жеља и наш интерес да не будемо део МКС. На ту тему разговара се са владама свих тих држава", рекао нам је тим поводом амбасадор Проспер. "Разговараћемо и са владом у Београду о разумевању за наш став да амерички војници и остали не могу да иду пред тај међународни суд коме САД не припадају."

С друге стране - кад је реч о обавезама СРЈ према Међународном трибуналу за ратне злочине у бившој Југославији - представник америчке владе упозорио је да ће текуће успоравање Београда у испуњавању међународних обавеза према Хагу неминовно утицати на даљи темпо жељене нормализације односа САД са СР Југославијом и Србијом.

"Стално смо ангажовани у консултацијама са властима у Београду поводом степена њихове сарадње са Трибуналом у Хагу. Настављамо да подстичемо, убрзавамо и указујемо на потребу да се то обави... Нешто од тога је учињено, али сматрамо да то није довољно", рекао нам је амбасадор Проспер.

Сат откуцава

Према Просперовим речима, у садашњој ситуацији - ако се из Београда благовремено не предузму тражене акције - Конгрес ће, по свему судећи, ускоро поново усвојити "закон о сертификацији" сарадње Југославије са Хашким трибуналом: "Да, сат откуцава и то је порука коју смо врло јасно пренели властима у Београду. Решење за то питање налази се у њиховим рукама - не у нашим... Што се тиче администрације, ако би се у међувремену решило питање Младића и дво-

јице оптужених за злочине у Вуковару, били бисмо у бољој позицији да у Конгресу изнесемо аргументе против новог закона о суспензији помоћи за Србију и подршке за Југославију".

Суд је за све

Председник Савезне Републике Југославије Војислав Коштуница изјавио је да би прихватање америчке понуде о билатералном изузимању испоручивања држављана новом Међународном кривичном суду (МКС) озбиљно подрило међународни правни поредак, као и правне поретке држава које су ратификовале Римски статут о оснивању тог суда.

Упитан да прокоментарише одлуку америчке администрације да се обрати земљама које су ратификовале Римски споразум, међу којима и СРЈ, понудом да кроз билатералне аранжмане изузму своје грађане од гоњења пред МКС, Коштуница је рекао да се на том питању ломи судбина нове међународне правне институције.

СР Југославија и Босна и Херцеговина једине су још две преостале државе Југоисточне Европе које чекају на пријем у Партнерство за мир - групацију придружених чланова Северноатлантског одбрамбеног савеза (НАТО). Сада се појавила нова препрека: амерички захтев који личи на уцену.

"То је", како је нагласио Коштуница, "посебно важно за земље као што је наша, која је тек ступила на пут изградње правне државе и тим путем корача уз многобројне тешкоће, и унутрашње и спољне".

"На самом почетку, заправо пре него што је и зачео стварни живот Суда, разлози његовог настанка и будућност најозбиљније су доведени у питање таквим ставом америчке администрације", рекао је Коштуница, додајући да се "тима, без околишања речено, легитимно став да суд може да суди свима, само не америчким држављанима".

Тиме би се практично, како је навео Коштуница, припадницима америчких трупа гарантовао имунитет од кривичног гоњења пред овим судом.

"То би било у складу са познатим схватањем бившег америчког државног секретара Мадлен Олбрајт да су САД "незаобилазна нација", она без које се не може у данашњем свету", додао је Коштуница.

"Ако су незаобилазне не значи да су једина нација", рекао је Коштуница, додајући да систем међународних права и обавеза мора да важи за све.

"Не могу постојати једнаки и једнакији, осим ако се не ради на томе, или ако неки не раде на томе да застрашујућа Орвелова визија постане наша стварност", рекао је Коштуница.

На питање - какви се ефекти могу очекивати од МКС - Коштуница је подсетио да је настанку ове међународне институције, пре

нешто више од месец дана, претходила вишегодишња процедура приступања и ратификовања од појединих држава "како би се остварили стари покушаји и замисли, па и снови, да се успостави систем међународне правде".

"Тај систем би требало да омогући да за најтежа огрешења о право, за почињене ратне злочине и злочине геноцида одговарају сви починиоци без изузетка, мали и велики, из малих или великих држава", навео је Коштуница, додајући да би на тај начин и правда коју би Међународни кривични суд изрицао била стварна, односно неселективна.

Упитан да у том светлу направи паралелу између МКС и Међународног суда за ратне злочине почињене на простору бивше Југославије, Коштуница је рекао да се управо елиминисањем селективности неутралишу сви приговори који се сада упућују на адресу хашког трибунала, а који би се у будућности могли ставити на душу МКС.

"Стални суд", према Коштуници, "није створен вољом једног ужег тела, Савета безбедности, и он нема ad hoc карактер. Иза њега стоји Генерална скупштина УН и његова надлежност се простире на територије свих држава чланица", рекао је Коштуница.

Председник СРЈ је додао да МКС по начелу комплементарности наступа када национални судови нису у стању или не желе да поступају у конкретним случајевима.

Улога тог суда је, казао је Коштуница, "да одврати потенцијалне преступнике од мрачних намера, а он то не може постићи ако не буде судио свима одговорнима за злочине. Сви који буду уживали имунитет од кривичног гоњења за најтеже злочине не само што ће моћи мирно да спавају, већ ће бити охрабрени да наставе да чине злодела", рекао је Коштуница.

Без илузија о суду

Коштуница је, међутим, оценио да не треба имати ни претераних очекивања од овог суда, поготово не "илузија шта би Међународни кривични суд могао одмах и у догледној будућности да учини или спречи".

"Реч је свакако о једном систему изрицања међународне правде који је амбициознији и мање несавршен од неких досадашњих", навео је Коштуница.

На питање - да ли МКС може поставити темељ нове међународне правде упркос спорном ставу америчке администрације - Коштуница је одговорио да је право питање - "да ли ће тај трибунал судити свима, па бити суд, или само неким, па неће бити суд".

"То је право питање, бити или не бити Међународног кривичног суда. Ја верујем да он мора бити у могућности да суди свима. Не буде ли тако, имаћемо само још једну прескупу и прегломазну играчку међународне бирократије", закључио је председник Коштуница у изјави Танјугу.

Деспот Стефан Високи

Уз 75. годишњицу канонизације Стефана Лазаревића, за чије владавине је Београд био главни српски град, а он сам остао је упамћен и као аутор "Слова љубве"



Деспот Високи Стефа,
фреска из 15. века

Први пут Београд постаје српска престоница 1403. године иако су њиме накратко раније управљали краљеви Драгутин и Милутин. Млади деспот Стефан Високи је од Угара добио град, Посавину и Мачву. Ушће Саве у Дунав деловало му је као "најдивније место", достојно да се на остацима времена саграде двор, митрополија, храмови. Град је побожни владар посветио небеској владици Богородици. Пре седам и по деценија, 1. августа 1927, на петстоту годишњицу смрти, прибројан је светитељима. Иницијатива за канонизацију заправо је потекла од државника Стојана Новаковића (1842-1912). Епископ шабачки, потоњи патријарх Димитрије саставио је службу. Замисао су омели политички догађаји почетком века, анексија БиХ, Балкански ратови и нови светски рат. Канонизација, и поред неокончаних припрема, обављена је у Саборној цркви на велику годишњицу. Литија је, како сведочи тадашња "Политика", прошла и Калемегданом.

Кнез Лазар и кнегиња Милица су после пет кћери добили, око 1373, сина Стефана. Неки бележе да је овим поводом кнез подигао цркву Лазарицу у Крушевцу. Неколико година после смрти оца, овај по мајци потомак светородне лозе Немањића и сам постаје кнез, али и вазал Турске за коју је морао да ратује. Од византијског владара Јована Палеолога 1402. добија деспотску титулу и жени се његовом рођаком, која није дуго поживела. Забележено је да је по лепоти тела и снази био као "сунце међу звездама". Под његовом влашћу су биле области од Дунава до Приморја, делови Босне, Зете. Одлично је умео да усклади односе како са моћним Угарима на северу тако и са још моћнијим Турцима на југу и истоку.

Београд је био српски главни град 24 године, до деспотове смрти, када град поново преузимају Угари. За

тадашње прилике био је то велики центар, имао је око 50.000 становника, већином Срба. Владар Стефан је према малој католичкој заједници, већином трговцима из разних крајева, био то - лерантан, допустио јој је да има цркву. Саграђене су болнице, домови за незбринуте, сиротиште, пристаниште са "слободном царинском зоном". Град је био центар трговине сребром, бакром, оловом. Саградио је у Београду бар три цркве, посвећене Успењу Богородице, светом Николају и Тројици јерарха, можда и светој Петки, чије су мошти у његово време доспеле у Србију. Био је ктитор манастира Копорина, Велућа, Руденице, Тресија, по некима и Каленића. Помагао је светогорске манастире. Наводи се да је основао Параћин, Ваљево, Чачак. За вечан одмор саградио је манастир Манасију. На освећењу 1418, на Духове, био је и српски патријарх Кирил.

Монаси из области под Турцима, Срби, Грци, Бугари, дошли су у Стефанову Србију, међу њима и Григорије Цамблук и Константин Философ. Поготово је много било пустињака, исихаста, којима је владар био велики пријатељ и саговорник. Преписивале су се књиге, исправљале постојеће. Владар је написао "Слово љубве" и "Мудрост и пророчанства", донео рударски законик. Србија је доживела културни и градитељски процват. С обзиром да је земља са суседима била у релативном миру, а он ослабљеног здравља, за наследника је одредио свога сестрића Ђурђа Бранковића, пошто није имао породе.

Деспот Стефан Лазаревић је умро од срчане капи 1. августа 1427, за време лова негде поред Младеновца. Сахрањен је у својој задужбини Манасији, где је почивао бар два века. Пошто је овај манастир у више наврата разаран, деспотове мошти су по свему судећи склоњене у манастир Копорин, где се и данас налазе. Његов култ постојао је код Срба још у 16. веку, чак и код других словенских народа. Житије (биографију) написао је Константин Философ четири године после смрти Стефанове. У богослужбеним песмама деспот се назива "похвалом отаџбине", "незалазним сунцем земље српске", "непоколебљивом стеном вере", као и "крепошћу духовном престоног Београда". Осликан је у својим задужбинама, али и у католичкој катедрали на Птујској гори међу угарским властелинима.

Његовом смрћу у Србији настаје страх и метеж, многи напуштају земљу која губи мир. Празник светог Стефана Лазаревића могао би град Београд да слави као своју другу славу, поред Спасовдана.

Живица ТУЦИЋ

Скромно подсећање

На седму годишњицу страдања Срба из Крајине, у бањалучком храму Свете Тројице служен је парастос, а потом су положени венци и цвеће на гробље "Свети Пантелија".

На овај начин, Удружење избеглих Срба из Крајине и Хрватске са председником Пером Цоданом и Информативно-документациони центар "Веритас" из Београда, чији је председник Саво Штрбац, подсетили су на страдање Срба у највећем прогону у овом веку који је извела хрватска војска под називом "Олуја".

Како стоји у документацији "Веритаса", управо обелодањеној, наспрам 220.000 цивила и 30.000 војника било је близу 200.000 припадника хрватске војске. "Веритас" документује да су у помоћ хрватској војсци тада пришле и снаге ХВО и армија БиХ, како се каже, уз одобрење и подршку НАТО, с обзиром на то да је ова област тада била под заштитом Уједињених нација, а само дан пре агресије на житеље своје државе, Хрватска је у Женеви са српском страном прихватила предлог међународне заједнице о реинтеграцији РС у Хрватску, уз чврсте гаранције да напада неће бити. У саопштеној документацији Информационог центра "Веритас" дат је и списак од 1975 погинулих и несталих Срба од којих је 1198 цивила, а међу њима 515 жена и 12 деце. "Веритас" подсећа да је тадашњи председник Хрватске Фрањо Туђман у јануару 1996. године изјавио да је успешно изведеном акцијом "Олуја" за свагда решен главни проблем хрватске државе.

Апсурд је, наводи се даље у саопштењу, да је Хрватска Хашком трибуналу тужила Југославију "за геноцид над Србима из Крајине" да би касније тај део тужбе повукла. Највећи је парадокс да је Хрватски светски конгрес недавно захтевао покретање истраге против бившег председника САД Била Клинтон, кога оптужује да је пружао помоћ и подршку генералу Анти Готовини у "Олуји" да истера Србе. Представници Хрватског светског конгреса, каже се у саопштењу "Веритаса", наводе да им је био циљ да захтевом према Билу Клинтону буде постигнута "једнака правда" за све који су учинили злочине на територији бивше Југославије.

Б. Кеџман

Патријарх Павле служио парастос

У присуству великог броја избеглица из бивше Републике Српске Крајине, 4. августа је патријарх српски господин Павле у Цркви Светог Марка у Београду служио парастос жртвама хрватске војно-политичке акције "Олуја".

Парастос, поводом седме годишњице "Олује", саслуживали су епископ хвостански Атанасије и неколико београдских свештеника.

Напори посустали

Напори за побољшање положаја Срба у Хрватској и њихов повратак су посустали, и поред чињенице да међународна заједница врши изврстан притисак на Загреб, оценио је председник Српског народног већа и председник Програмског савета Самосталне демократске српске странке Милорад Пуповац у интервјуу Би-Би-Сију поводом седмогодишњице хрватске полицијско-војне акције "Олуја", у којој је између 200.000 и 250.000 Срба са тог подручја било приморано да напусти домове.

"Цело подручје и крајеви у које Срби треба да се врате, премда су били проглашени подручјима од посебног државног интереса и бриге, на жалост, још увек су подручја која су на различите начине запостављена" - каже Пуповац.

Помен пребиловачким жртвама

Свештеници Српске православне цркве служили су 4. августа парастос херцеговачким Србима из Пребиловаца и суседних херцеговачких места настрадалим у масакру 1941. године, када су усташе побиле више од 3000 углавном жена, деце и стараца и потом их бацили у јаме. Хришћански је опростити, али се не сме заборавити на овај злочин, чије су жртве били људи који су проглашени кривим само зато што су припадници једне вере или нације.

Танјуг

Нема мира за Србе на Косову и Метохији

Скандал у Грачаници

Грачаница, 9. августа

Манастир Грачаница

Вест да су српски полицајци у саставу косовске полиције прекривши, нарушивши манастирски типик, упали у манастир Грачаницу и под сумњом да монахиње узгајају опојну дрогу - индустријску конопљу, привели у полицијску станицу игуманију мати Ефросимију, узбудила је локалне српске житеље.

Мештани Грачанице осуђују понашање полицајаца, својих сународника, што су без допуштења владике др Артемија, после вечерње службе, када се затварају манастирске двери, упали у манастирски конак и буквално ухапсили игуманију.

Они су морали знати, каже нам Благоје Јефтић, с обзиром да су из овог краја, да се у манастир одлази за дана, а не ноћу.

Полицајци су, да подсетимо, посумњали да се у економском делу манастирског дворишта, које је иначе обрасло коровом, узгаја канбис, па су привели игуманију мати Ефросимију у полицијску станицу и тамо је саслушавали више од једног сата.

Према изјави игуманије Ефросимије, полицајци су од ње тражили да призна да монахиње узгајају дрогу. Како је рекла, она је могла да каже само истину. Наиме, до 1953. године монахиње су у том делу баште узгајале индустријску конопљу коју су прерађивале у тканине, па се, према томе, не ради ни о каквој дроги. Пошто је семе давно расуто, сваке године, с обзиром да се овај део земље не обрађује, од њега се конопља самоницањем обнавља.

Шеф полицијске станице у Грачаници Чарли Ведер је за "Политику" изјавио:

- Приметили смо конопљу која расте као коров у економском делу манастирског дворишта, али ће она бити уништена, без обзира да ли је у питању индустријска или за друге намене и за нас је овај случај завршен.

На овај догађај реаговала је и епархија рашко-призренска, а владика Артемије је најенергичније осудио овакво понашање полицајаца.

- Оваквим понашањем озбиљно се

нарушава углед међународне и косовске полиције - рекао је владика Артемије.

Иначе, ових дана шведски војници у саставу Кфора приметили су исту ову конопљу и на имању код старца Драгомира Филиповића, у селу Кормићане, у атару Ново Брдо. Узалуд су Драгомир и његова супруга молили шведске војнике да им не уништавају усе, показујући им чак и разбој, на којем се ова биљка даље прерађује за производњу платна, Швеђани су међутим били неумољиви и на имању су уништили и последњи струк ове биљке.

М. Л.



Монахиње у манастиру Грачаница живе под заштитом страних војника, али и страна управа често угрожава живот Срба на Косову и Метохији, па чак и мир оних који су живот посветили Богу и цркви

Читав живот посвећен подвигу

Српска православна црква оштро је јуче критиковала УНМИК због привођења игуманије манастира Грачанице Ефросимије 7. августа, под оптужбом да се на манастирском имању гаји марихуана.

"Честита монахиња, чији је читав живот посвећен подвигу, молитви, помагању и пријатељима и непријатељима, после полицијског шиканирања и понижавања била је принуђена да те апсурдне оптужбе јавно демантује, у настојању да пред целим светом сачува образ свој, као и образ сестринства над којим бди, те Српске цркве и верног јој народа",

наводи се у саопштењу СПЦ.

Додаје се да цео свет зна да је "терористичка ОВК финансирана новцем" албанског нарко-картела који дрогом трује и убија децу Европе.

"Намеће се још и питање, како то да се Европска унија залаже за повратак изгнаних Срба, а међународни органи на терену извршавају руглу најлепше од најлепшег што српска и европска културна баштина имају, а то је свакако древна задужбина Светог краља Милутина и још хапсе најугледније Србе", саопштено је.

СПЦ је, такође, подсетила да је недавно извршен бомбашки напад на Грачаницу, у тренутку када се тамо налазило око 1.500 верника. Тежи инцидент је тада избегнут зато што највећи део експлозива није активиран.

(Бета)

Протест Удружења књижевника Србије:

Насилнички чин без потребе

Поводом привођења Игуманије манастира Грачаница, пречасне мати Ефросимије и покушаја хапшења доктора Милана Ивановића, демолирања куће и малтретирања његове мајке у Звечану, Удружење књижевника Србије оштро је протестовало код Кфора и УНМИК-а и шефа цивилне мисије ОУН за Косово и Метохију, Михаила Штајнера.

"Само ум антихриста може да замисли и претпостави да се у манастиру Грачаница узгајају дрога и друга опојна средства, што је наводно био повод полицији Косова да мати Ефросимију прекину у богоугодној молитви у касним вечерњим часовима и приведу је у полицију ради саслушања. Овај насилнички и нецивилизован чин без потребе, сматрамо недопустивим и упереним не само према монаштву и свештенству Српске православне цркве, њиховом напору да сачувају српске светиње у тој покрајини, већ и према свим верницима СПЦ и свим хришћанима уопште. Ово привођење не сматрамо срамотом за монахиње СПЦ већ бруком и срамотом међународне заједнице, каже се у саопштењу УКС-а.

М. Галовић



Рустем Мустафа (лево) и Агим Чеку за време војне прославе у Приштини

вишеструких убиства својих сународника које је пре тога мучио у свом приватном затвору. Прошле године 3. јула Рустема Мустафу,

Међународна заједница скреће поглед и на албанске злочине

Редепа Селимија, Даута Хајрадинаја, Ганија Љуштакуа и Рамиза Ладровија (сви генерали трансформисане ОВК у тзв. КЗК) тадашњи командант Кфора генерал Торстен Скијакер и цивилни администратор УН Ханс Хекеруп привремено су суспендовали из КЗК. Суспензија је важила годину дана. Донета је на основу одлуке америчког председника Џорџа Буша, пошто их је ставио на тзв. црну листу, прогласивши их опасним за безбедност међународних представника и америчке интересе на Балкану. Сада су сви похапшени, њих 11 за 4 дана. А подигнута је оптужница и

против Рамуша Хајрадинаја, бившег генерала и председника Алијансе за будућност Косова, треће по броју посланика шиптарске партије.

Мустафа је био један од оснивача терористичке ОВК. Одговоран је за убиства припадника МУП-а Србије деведесетих година на Космету и цивила неалбанаца у подујевачком крају, где је деловао. Осумњичен је за бомбашки напад 3. фебруара те године на кафић "Белама" у српском, северном делу Косовске Митровице. Том приликом је повређено више од 20 Срба. Његови људи су "зољом" гранатирани аутобус УНХЦР којим су превожени Срби из Сувог Грла и Бања до митровичке болнице. У том нападу петоро старијих српских особа је тешко повређено.

Сви до сада похапшени и оптужени Албанци терете се само за злочине над Албанцима.

Париски "Монд": Дебакл хашке оптужнице

Оспорена командна веза. Бивши шеф Државне безбедности Раде Марковић негирао да је био потчињен Слободану Милошевићу. Судије одлазе на годишњи одмор, а тужиоци и даље празних руку. Главни сведоци оптужбе из Србије сведочили у корист одбране.

Кључни дани суђења

Само завршних 15 минута заседања хашког трибунала припало је Радету Марковићу, али су сама његова појава у судници и одговори на питања тужиоца Џефрија Најса, без сумње обележили тај кључни дан суђења.

Најављен као сведок К-34, а потом и под пуним именом, јер, како је Најс рекао, његов идентитет је већ познат јавности, бивши шеф Државне безбедности Србије ушао је у пратњи стражара који се од њега није одвајао све време давања исказа.

Дани проведени у београдском Централном затвору, одакле је пребачен у Хаг и где се враћа већ овог викенда, нису нимало утицали на препознатљив Марковићев стил. Смркнут, говорио је кратко, одсечно и арогантно. Пре него што је сео не место сведока Милошевићу је упутио неми поздрав, климнувши главом.

Током Марковићевог сведочења, лице оптуженог задржало је уобичајени нехајни, полу-иронични израз и ничим није одавало да је овај сведок другачији од свих стотину досадашњих. А Раде Марковић то јесте, не само због функције коју је имао у последње две године Милошевићеве власти већ и због огромног поверења које је у њега имао бивши шеф државе.

Да ли ће то поверење издржати хашки тест, зависило је, наравно, и од тога шта је ко подразумевао под оданошћу и издајом. Било је прегледније у наставку суђења, када је сведок био суочен са новим документима и чињеницама. Када му је био предочен један папир који је евентуално могао да послужи као доказ о Милошевићевој командној одговорности, Марковић је то својим објашњењима оспорио.

У питању је Милошевићева потписана одлука, обележена као државна тајна, од 27. априла 1997. године, из времена када је на челу

ДБ-а био Јовица Станишић, у којој се наводи да ће Ресор Државне безбедности, до доношења савезног закона о безбедности, радити у складу са смерницама председника Владе Србије.

Марковић је препознао тај документ и потврдио да му га је Станишић показао, када је у новембру 1998. преузео дужност, али је одмах додао да та одлука за њега није важила и да је он био потчињен министру унутрашњих послова Влајку Стојиљковићу.

Напоменуто је, одговарајући на питање тужиоца, да савезни закон није донет (био је и остао само предлог), да не зна да ли је наведена одлука формално поништена, али да је њему Влајко Стојиљковић рекао да се Државна безбедност мора обраћати директно Министарству и лично министру.

На Најсово питање да ли је икада лично одговарао Милошевићу, Марковић је рекао да је председник свакодневно добијао извештаје службе и да је, ако би за нешто био посебно заинтересован, тражио додатна писмена или усмена објашњења. А да ли је Ресор државне безбедности деловао у складу са Милошевићевом политиком - Марковић је узвратио да "политику у свакој земљи креира председник", да "МУП ту политику мора да следи", а "ми смо били извршни органи и извршавали смо наређења".

Пре Марковића су иступила тог дана још два сведока. Криминалистички техничар из Кладова Бошко Радојковић завршио је сведочење започето претходног дана, а мимо раније датог плана појавио се и Исуф Јемини из села Целине код Ораховца. Милошевић је упутио замерке суду због ове промене реда, али је рекао да је спреман за испитивање, јер је, отприлике, већ навикао на овакве некоректне поступке.

Радојковића је Милошевић упорно пропитивао о неким маргиналним детаљима везаним за хладњачу са лешевима, оставши неуздран потресним појединостама, попут ранца са свеском, бојицама и лутком, нађеним поред тела седмогодишње девојчице. За оптуженог је случај хладњаче "фантомски" јер не постоје фотографије лешева, "нити су ексхумирани, нити нађени, нити ико зна где се налазе".



Оптимизам да ће тужиоци Хашког трибунала имати лак посао убрзо је био поколебав, највише због приписивања само Србима кривице за распад Југославије и све злочине

Сведок се сложио са примедбом да постоје извесне контрадикторности у писменом предлошку сведочења, што је приписао брзоплетом уврштавању неких његових неслужбених изјава у службени документ, а о Милошевићевој тврдњи да иза целе приче стоји веза локалних шверцера са странком Душана Михајловића рекао је да ништа не зна.

Албанац Јемини сведочио је о погибији 82 особе у Целинама, приликом гранатирања и паљења села 25. марта 1999. године. Тада су стрељани и његови родитељи, али он сам чин није видео јер се крио на тавану. Одатле је, међутим, чуо

разговор припадника српских снага да је реч "о масакру два пута већем него у Рачку".

Милошевић је констатовао да је сведок тај разговор измислио, а као аргумент навео је реч "масакр" за коју је рекао да припада језику Вилијама Вокера и да је ниједан српски војник никад не би употребио. (Д.Д.)

"Монд": Дебакл оптужнице

Досадашњи ток процеса Слободану Милошевићу представља прави дебакл хашког тужилаштва, оцењује париски "Монд" у тексту посвећеном завршетку прве фазе суђења бившем југословенском председнику у Хагу.

Дебакл оптужнице "достигао је врхунац пред саму летњу паузу, када је дошло до спектакуларног преокрета", наводи "Монд", указујући да је "један од главних сведока, бивши шеф Државне безбедности Србије Радомир Марковић, својом појавом начинио серију преокрета који стварају утисак да се суд јако лоше спремио за Милошевићев процес".

"За шест месеци, колико траје суђење Милошевићу у Хагу, није донет ниједан задовољавајући одговор", оцењује "Монд" и пита који је "циљ овог историјског суђења, уколико оно мора да траје годинама".

Сваки лош потез тужиоца постепено је угрожавао процес, оцењује париски лист, наводећи пример случајева када су представљени лажни документи (као што је то била тзв. црна листа Албанаца из Митровице које је наводно требало да Срби ликвидирају) или када су "бројни несигурни сведоци хватани у контрадикцијама, па их је Милошевић затим лако потукао".

"Суд има и неке доказе о Милошевићевој директној умешаности, али се све то губи у процесу у коме се једва назире напредак", закључује "Монд".

Балкански "Крв и мед"

Изложба ратних фотографија америчког фоторепортера Рона Хавива, "Крв и мед", после гостовања у Ужицу, када је изложба прекинута, није наишла на гостопримство ни у Чачку, када је на отварању изложбе нападнут представник организатора Иван Златић из Грађанског парламента. Реч је о

изложби на којој су представљене фотографије настајале током последњих десет година на ратним подручјима у Југославији, а највише их је из Вуковара, Босне, са Косова.

Изложба Рона Хавива може се коментарисати на различите начине. Срби су углавном приказани као прљави, пијани, зли ратници, а цивилне жртве снимљене су само код муслимана, Хрвата, Албанаца... Потписи

испод слика су такође негде веома тендециозни.

Изложба "Крв и мед" гостовала је после Београда у Вршцу где није било никаквих инцидената, а видели су је и грађани Новог Сада.

Марија Ђорђевић

Летњи камп "Наша Србија"

До краја августа боравиће 200 малишана
из дијаспоре

Домаћа невладина хуманитарна организација "Наша Србија", у чијем је програму помоћ деци која су током протеклих ратова на нашим просторима остала без једног или оба родитеља, или су родитељи киднаповани или нестали, и овог августа на планини Гучево код Лознице одржава Летњи камп "Наша Србија", за две стотине деце из земље и дијаспоре. Свечано отварање је било дивно, а покровитељи су, као и прошле године, општина Лозница и њене туристичке организације.

Овде ће, у окриљу планине Гучево, у лепом природном окружењу, све до краја овог месеца боравити малишани из Србије, Црне Горе, Републике Српске, који примају помоћу оквиру пројекта "Наша Србија - својој деци", а с њима и велики број деце пријатеља и донатора "Наше Србије" из расејања. Посебан значај овогодишњем кампу даће учешће деце из српских енклава на Косову и Метохији - Велике Хоче и Ораховца, којима ће то бити прилика да, бар накратко, поново осете радост детињства у безбедном окружењу.

Поред игре и дружења, радости међусобног упознавања и пријатељства, за децу су осмишљене креативне радионице, упознавање са српском традицијом и културом, па су стога у плану и једнодневни излети до оближњих културно-историјских споменика.

Ову племениту мисију омогућили су бројни добротвори, појединци, институције, организације, предузећа из земље и иностранства. Такође, својим посетама кампу децу ће обрадовати и многе угледне личности јавног и културног живота, академик Матија Бећковић, митрополит црногорско-приморски Амфилохије, "Краљевски гудачи Светог Ђорђа", смедеревски женски хор "Кир Стефан Србин" и други познати уметници и спортисти.

На дан свечаног отварања, у уметничком делу програма представила су се деца "Наше Србије", даровити мали уметници у многим областима, а наступио је и дечји хор "Косовски божури", састављен од најмлађих становника избегличког кампа Каменово у Црној Гори, који, такође, борави на Гучеву.

Одлуком Светог архијерејског синода, Српску православну цркву заступа владика шабачко-ваљевски Лаврентије, који је благословио рад кампа и његове учеснике. А своје учешће и подршку најавили су и министар трговине, туризма и услуга у Влади Србије Слободан Милосављевић, министар правде Владан Батић, представници највишег руководства Републике Српске и други угледни гости.

Р. Саратлић

Јесте ли претплатник "Американског Србобрана"? Ако нисте, шта чекате?

Стогодишњицу његовог излажења 2006? Јер наш лист је најстарији српски лист који непрекидно излази. А то је лист америчких Срба. Зар није зато и ваш?

Моба 2002.

Премијер Србије Зоран Ђинђић рекао, у разговору са младима из дијаспоре који су учествовали у акцији "Моба 2002", да за Србију "тек долази најбољи тренуци" и да је свако улагање у државу вредно труда.

Акција "Моба 2002", која се одржава од прошле године, заједнички је пројекат Владе Србије и Српске православне цркве, а циљ пројекта је да омладина из дијаспоре током једномесечног боравка у Србији учи српски језик и историју и учествује у радовима на обнови манастира, цркава и школа.

"Наш највећи задатак био је да врати-мо поштовање и достојанство", нагласио је

Ђинђић.

"Желимо да миран живот буде правило на овим просторима, и у том послу потребна је помоћ не само људи који овде живе, него и дијаспоре, а посебно младих стручњака."

Премијер је изразио уверење да ће учесници "Мобе" пренети своја искуства пријатељима у земљама у којима живе и да ће и они желети да дођу и упознају Србију и њену традицију.

Учеснике "Мобе", њих око 70, поздравља је и републички министар вера Војислав Миловановић и владика шабачко-ваљевски Лаврентије.

Опширније о моби на страни 24.

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The person who makes the transaction will be deemed to be the "entrant" and may not transfer the game card or prize to another person. Game cards available only at participating Western Union Agent locations. For participating locations, call (toll free) 1-800-325-6000 (English), 1-800-325-0000 (French), 1-800-327-0000 (Russian), 1-800-990-4440 (Polish), 1-800-347-6000 (Romanian), 1-800-789-0882 (Ukrainian) or 1-877-984-1723 (Serbo-Croatian). 2. NO PURCHASE NECESSARY: To receive a game card without making a Qualifying Transaction, send a self-addressed, stamped (#10) envelope to: Western Union "Back to School" Instant Win Game, P.O. Box 4472, Blair, NE 68009-4472. (Vermont residents need not affix return postage.) Limit one request per envelope. The person listed as addressee of the self-addressed envelope will be deemed to be the "entrant" and may not transfer the game card or prize to another person. 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HOW TO CLAIM A PRIZE: After you have made a photocopy of your game card for your records, mail entire original game card via REGISTERED MAIL return receipt requested, along with your name, address, zip code and telephone number, clearly hand-printed on 3" x 5" paper to: Western Union "Back to School" Instant Win Game, P.O. Box 4590, Blair, NE 68009-4590. Verified winners will be notified by mail. All prize claims must be received by October 31, 2002. Limit one claim per envelope. PLEASE NOTE FOR SECOND PRIZE CLAIMS: YOU MUST CLEARLY INDICATE CHOICE OF "500 Toys R Us® GIFT CARD" OR "500 FOOT LOCKER® GIFT CARD" OR "CASH ALTERNATIVE". If no choice is indicated, the cash alternative will automatically be sent. 5. VERIFICATION: All claims are subject to verification. Decisions of the judges are final. All material submitted becomes sole property of sponsor and will not be returned. Any game card that is illegible, mutilated, altered, duplicated, tampered with, forged, cut, torn, or contains printing, typographical or other errors, or has been tampered with in any way, or has been obtained illegitimately, in the event of printing or other error or irregular game card, neither Sponsor, nor its affiliates, subsidiaries, promotion and promotion agencies, suppliers and the immediate families and/or those living in same household of each are not eligible. Void where prohibited by law. Winners may make no substitution or transfer of prizes. All federal, state and local taxes are the sole responsibility of winners. All federal, state and local laws and regulations apply. If a Grand Prize winner is deemed a minor in his/her state of residence, prize will be awarded in the name of winner's parent or legal guardian. Potential Grand Prize winner or parent/legal guardian of potential Grand Prize winner may be required to execute any required Affidavit of Eligibility/Release of Liability/Prize Acceptance Form within 15 days of notification. Noncompliance within this time period will result in disqualification. Return of any prize/prize notification as undeliverable will result in disqualification. Acceptance of prize constitutes permission to the sponsor and its agencies to use winner's name and/or likeness for purposes of advertising and trade without further compensation, unless prohibited by law. By accepting prize, winner agrees to hold Sponsor its respective directors, officers, employees and assigns, harmless against any and all claims and liability arising out of use of prize. Winner assumes all liability for any injury or damage caused, or claimed to be caused, by participation in this promotion or use or redemption of any prize. 6. NUMBER OF INSTANT WIN GAME CARDS, PRIZES & APPROX. ODDS OF WINNING: 588,000 game cards for Africa, Eastern Europe or Haiti; 150,000 for Eastern Europe; 150,000 for Haiti; 15,000. (12) Grand Prizes - \$100,000 each. Odds of winning a Grand Prize in Africa are 1:27,167. Odds of winning a Grand Prize in Eastern Europe are 1:27,167. Odds of winning a Grand Prize in Haiti are 1:2,717. Odds of winning a First Prize in Africa are 1:2,717. Odds of winning a First Prize in Eastern Europe are 1:2,717. Odds of winning a Second Prize in Africa are 1:2,717. Odds of winning a Second Prize in Eastern Europe are 1:2,717. Odds of winning a Second Prize in Haiti are 1:2,717. ODDS ARE BASED ON ALL AVAILABLE GAME CARDS BEING DISTRIBUTED. Limit two prizes per household. Prizes include only the items specifically named. Grand and First Prizes will be awarded in U.S. currency values in the form of a check. Second Prizes will be awarded in the form of a gift card or a cash alternative. Unclaimed prizes will not be awarded. 6. WINNERS LIST: For names of winners available after October 31, 2002, send a separate, stamped, self-addressed (#10) envelope to: Western Union "Back to School" Instant Win Game Winners, P.O. Box 4100, Blair, NE 68009-4100. Requests received after November 30, 2002 will not be honored.

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Сомборска гимназијалка Јелица Матијевић имала је могућности да ово лето проведе у Француској, да види Венецију и посети још неколико италијанских градова о којима је само слушала. Уместо тога, определила се за летовање на "Моби 2002".

Обрела се у манастиру Светог оца Николаја на Соко-граду, једином на Азбуковици, далеко од сјаја и блештавости великих метропола, у царству чистог ваздуха, бистре и хладне воде, нетакнуте природе и искреног дружења са вршњацима српског порекла из Аустралије, Шведске, Енглеске, Аустрије, Немачке и отаџбине. Са великом вероватноћом да овогодишње летовање буде незаборавно и другачије од већ виђеног, прве недеље кумовала је на црквеном крштењу својој новој другарици Соњи из Београда. А загледала се и у Николаја из Лондона. Толико да то тешко скрива.

Духовни мир

- Овде у манастиру човек се некако другачије осећа, налази неки духовни мир - вели Јелица, која је заједно са десетак својих другара стигла на "Мобу 2002" захваљујући свом професору историје Браниславу Ђурчићу, који је прва сазнања о овој великој заједничкој акцији Српске православне цркве, државе и расејања стекао читајући "Политику". Професор се распитао, предложио, родитељи су били одушевљени и Јелица је са тридесетак вршњака "постала" археолог који својим радом и под стручним оком истинских вукова археологије професора Миливоја Васиљевића и кустоса из Осечине Живана Грујичића треба да баца више светла на Соко-град као изузетно вредан и занимљив културно-историјски локалитет из турског доба.

Окупљање српске омладине из читавог

Моба љубави, дружења и православља

Сусрети са вршњацима из дијаспоре бољи него пут у иностранство. Како је Коста Павловић измислио "Мобу"

света по старом народном обичају замишљено је као најефикаснији вид заштите наших младих људи од асимилације који би се кроз дружење са својом сабраћом у отаџбини и кроз обнављање манастира и старих споменика и ископина постепено враћали "земљи својих родитеља", како је то не једном рекао владика Лаврентије, човек који је вероватно најзаслужнији што се читава акција уопште и зачела.

Манастир Свети Никола и Соко-град

Када би се тражио најпогоднији слоган за све оно што се догађа међу учесницима мобе у Соко-граду, а верујемо и на локацијама у Мојковцу, Милешеву и на Златибору, онда је вероватно да би онај о "моби љубави, дружењу и православљу" то најверније одсликао.

Идеја о "Моби" рођена је у глави нашег пословног човека из Мелбурна Косте Павловића, који је још 1993. године имао визију онога што се данас догађа у матици.

- Наша деца у расејању су се плашила да кажу да су Срби - сећа се времена наше свеопште сатанизације.

Данас је он координатор "Мобе 2002" и

човек који, упркос лепим годинама, стиже да као "Катица за све" предузме оно што је потребно да би све било како треба.

Највреднија су деца

- Моба је подлога за све што се ради у матици према расејању. Највредније што данас можете да добијете из дијаспоре јесу - њихова деца. Кад она дођу овде, то је најбоља потврда поверења и другачијих односа о којима много говоримо, а на чему мало радимо.

Са мобом Коста Павловић се вратио из Аустралије. За њим су на "Мобу 2002" стигли наши сународници који тамо живе. Шесточлана породица Слободана Стојановића из Сиднеја провела је неколико дана на ископинама Соко-града. Он, супруга, три кћери и син напустили су манастирски комплекс и све са којима су се дружили видно узбуђени и са обећањем да ће се вратити и довести друге. Најбоља реклама за мобу биће мали Никола који је као седмогодишњак био и најмлађи учесник.

Моба љубави, дружења и православља

Родитељи би се вероватно изненадили самосталношћу, одговорношћу и дисциплином своје деце. Овде нема надзорника, заповедног односа и наметања. Да није "хладног рата" између разбарушених учесника мобе и монашких навика и правила на којима добро-намерно инсистирају сестре из манастира, а у коме владика Лаврентије има улогу помирителца, скоро да би било досадно. Момци и девојке из мобе сами се договарају ко ће да "нападне" градилиште, а ко брда судова у манастирској трпезарији, ко ће да почисти ходнике прелепо сређеног новог конака, а ко пикавце око храстових клупа, где се седи до дубоко у ноћ. И нико се због тога не љути.

Радивоје Петровић

Дијаспора ...

- Пренето са 17 -

заказаним за крај септембра.

Писмо са идентичним захтевима послато је на петнаестак адреса свима који нешто значе у политичком животу земље, али су до овог сусрета изостали било какви одговори.

Ћутање и гласине

Те чињенице умногоме су одредиле и карактер разговора који је вицепремијер водио са потпредседником Савета др Јасмином Вујић, професорком са Беркли универзитета у САД, и Слободаном Стојановићем на дугогодишњем раду у Швајцарској. Тиме је, на извештај начин унето и мало више светла у односе дијаспоре и матице, посебно кад је реч о гласинама поводом најосетљивијег питања - права гласа.

Наиме, већ дуго се може чути како се нико од људи којима је послато писмо са прецизно дефинисаним захтевима - од Коштунице и Пешића, па до Ђинђића - није огласио, јер се, по једнима са сигурношћу не може претпоставити за кога ће дијаспора гласати, а по другима да ће то учинити за - Шешеља!!! Свако ко иоле боље познаје расположење међу нама у расејању свестан је колико је уопште такав ускостраначки приступ овим питањима неубедљив. Све се ради с циљем да се заправо дезавуише комплетан напор приближавања матице и расејања у времену које не трпи ни

импровизације ни комоцију.

На посредан начин то је, према "Политикиним" изворима из расејања, потврдио и Лабус истичући да "нема политичког консензуса око права гласа дијаспоре ни у ДОС-у ни у опозицији". Према његовом мишљењу техничке могућности да дијаспора гласа у југословенским дипломатско-конзуларним представништвима, што је њихов основни захтев, постоје, али се та чињеница судара са "неким схватањима према којима дијаспора тражи права без обавеза", са тезом према којој "неки из дијаспоре желе да даљинским управљачем оданде утичу, мењају и одлучују о овоме овде".

Обећање и отпори

Тако је после тромесечног ћутања коначно постало јасно да у постојећој структури власти постоји озбиљан отпор учешћу дијаспоре у политичком животу земље, упркос несумњивим доказима да у демократским западним земљама које су нам узор, то одавно постоји и показује очигледне предности. Полазећи од добро познате поставке да је право гласа загарантовано Уставом, представници Савета одлучили су се на нови корак.

Председници српског парламента Наташи Мићић послато је писмо у форми амандмана којим се предлаже да се "свим бирачима стално настањеним изван Југославије омогући остваривање изборног права у дипломатско-конзуларним пред-

ставништвима СРЈ, ако то није забрањено законима земаља у којима живе, а ако јесте онда у најближој суседној земљи, и то директним гласањем, или путем писама, или по овлашћењу или комбинацијом ових могућности". Представници дијаспоре хоће да се тако нешто примени већ на изборима за председника Србије, сматрајући то првим истинским тестом добре воље актуелне власти.

На овај потез представници дијаспоре одлучили су се руковођени оклевањем на савезном нивоу и у институцији чији су саветодавни орган (Савезној влади), приближавањем председничких избора и атмосфером која у постојећој реконструкцији федералне државе организовање дијаспоре види на републичком нивоу. Према информацијама којима "Политика" располаже, и Лабус је у разговору са преговарачким паром из дијаспоре подвукао да би "начин комуницирања и сарадње матице са дијаспором требало да буде министарство за наше у расејању и то на - републичком нивоу".

Људи из дијаспоре захвални су што је до сусрета дошло и што је вицепремијер подржао захтеве који се односе на држављанство. Сагласни су са оценом Лабуса да су неопходни даљи разговори и стални дијалог, али уз помисао "да и једни и други морају да имају на уму да нико од нас није перфектан".

Радивоје Петровић

Culture & Heritage

Dragan Kovacevic, SNF Cultural Director

St. George "Tromedja" Schererville, IN

Tromedja will be doing its part to keep the love of dance alive as they host the 3rd Annual SNF Folklore Federation Festival in Schererville, Indiana next June.



The St. George Orthodox Church in Schererville, IN was consecrated in 1980. Our folklore group was established that same year. It consisted of 25 members. Throughout the past 22 years, we are proud to say that our group has continued to keep our Serbian culture and heritage alive.

Our group has gone through many changes in the past 2 years. In the year 2000, we changed our name to the Tromedja Folklore Group. That same year Mr. Michael Malich agreed to become our new choreographer. Along with his assistant, Ms. Nancy Markos, a new life was given to our group. The Tromedja Folklore Group now consists of a senior, junior and peewee groups, numbering close to 90 kids.

God willing we can continue to keep our love of dance alive for many years to come.

Order Your 2nd Annual SNFFF Festival Performance Souvenirs

June 22, 2002 at the Carnegie Library
of Munhall, Pennsylvania

Hosted by:
The St. Nicholas Tamburitians of
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or pick it up at St. Nicholas Church
Hall. Videos will be available 4-6
weeks.

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FOLKLORE FESTIVAL WOWS CROWD

by Valerie Tassari

Another Day In History

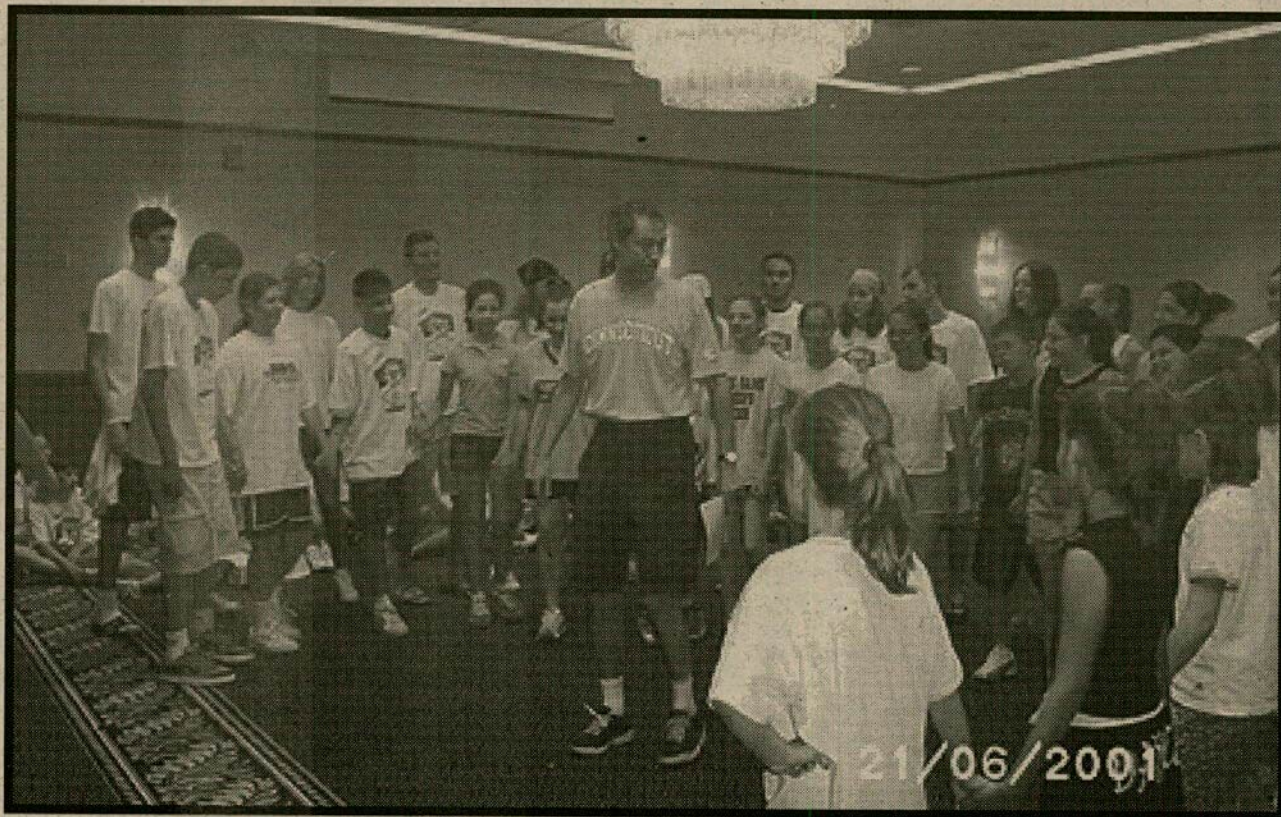
The date was June 21, 2002. The location... Monroeville, PA. After months and months of planning, preparing, and waiting, the big weekend arrived! What was just a plan on a piece of paper two years ago, a vision for keeping the Serbian culture alive for the future, was now in its second occurrence. The Second Annual Serbian Folklore Festival was about to begin. Everyone knows what happens on the outside, but usually doesn't get a look behind the scenes.

Kitchen Duty

What everyone hates the most, but what can really make or break the event, working in the kitchen. Our Chef, Nick "Guzda" Jokola, stepped up easily to the task. Hundreds of cevapcici and palachinke were prepared. Rice to order, salads to make, workers to organize, and tasks to carry out -- each duty was handled with ease. The best buffet in the East came to Monroeville for three days in a row. Posno items were served on Friday: fish sandwiches, shrimp, scallops, onion rings and more. Saturday's fare brought cevapcici, raznici, grilled chicken with Nick's secret special sauce, fries, and Srpska salata... The list was endless. Lamb was the main cuisine for Sunday and it was DELICIOUS! Sunday, Nick even delayed his departure for the beach to keep the kitchen running smoothly and Janet Pribanic's sister, Judy Roman, spent her vacation helping us out in the kitchen for the whole weekend (talk about dedication!).

Team Work

With an event the magnitude of this, it took the entire St. Nicholas Tamburitza's parent organization, working hand-in-hand to pull it off. From the housing arrangements made by Cathy Bilak to the hotel-to-hall transportation organized by Joyce Yovetich, no stone was unturned and no detail was overlooked. Where to hold the concert? What bands to hire? How many cups? How many plates? What kind of food and desserts? How much should be made? What color for the tablecloths? What kinds of decorations? The details were endless. Meeting after meeting took place, but no one seemed to mind. It was all for a worthwhile goal. The St. Nick Parents group should be extremely proud of their accomplishments for this weekend. ...and lots of thanks to the St. Nick parish-



Dragan with the kids during practice

help us make this event spectacular. We won't forget you!

Souvenirs and Program Books

The SNF Folklore Federation board thought it would be a great idea for each participant to walk away with a souvenir. With that thought in mind, a "logo" was designed by Donna Vranesovic, SNF Folklore Federation VP, and t-shirts and program books were made. Each participant who attended the EARLY MORNING (yes, 8AM is early on a Saturday morning after dancing until midnight) finale rehearsal would receive a t-shirt to wear over the weekend.

Program books, containing a short bibliography of each group along with their group's picture, were prepared. A priceless collectors items to remember a great event. Lots of hard work went into this, again by VP Donna Vranesovic with technical assistance by Valerie Tassari.

By the way, both of these items as well as a video of the actual Second Annual Serbian Folklore Federation Festival concert are available for sale. Please see the ad elsewhere in the Srbobran.

Did I say Finale?

8AM sharp the finale rehearsal began. The kids rolled into the hallway and conference room of the Radisson hotel, tired but excited. Dragan Kovacevic, SNF Cultural Director, took the center of the conference room to organize the dancers and put the finale together. Moravac was to be the tune. Group by group, the dancers were to take their place at the front of the stage, dance their steps, and then make room for the next group. In this way, each group

was to be recognized for their participation in the Festival. All would run smoothly to end the show.

Let the Show Begin!

The show order was set. Walkthroughs on the stage took place before the doors were opened to the audi-

ence. Thanks to Mike Malich, SNF Folklore Federation President; Carla Husnick, co-choreographer of St. Nicholas Tamburitza's; Mark Husnick, Carla's husband and resident sound and lighting guru; and Michael Repasky, who dropped the microphones, rewired the stage sound system, and set the lights on the stage; all was ready to go. The Carnegie Music Hall got their entire light and sound system reorganized, free of charge!

We also appreciate those locally who took time out of their day to attend the Festival concert. The auditorium was much more lively with you there. The performers appreciated your warm applause and cheers!

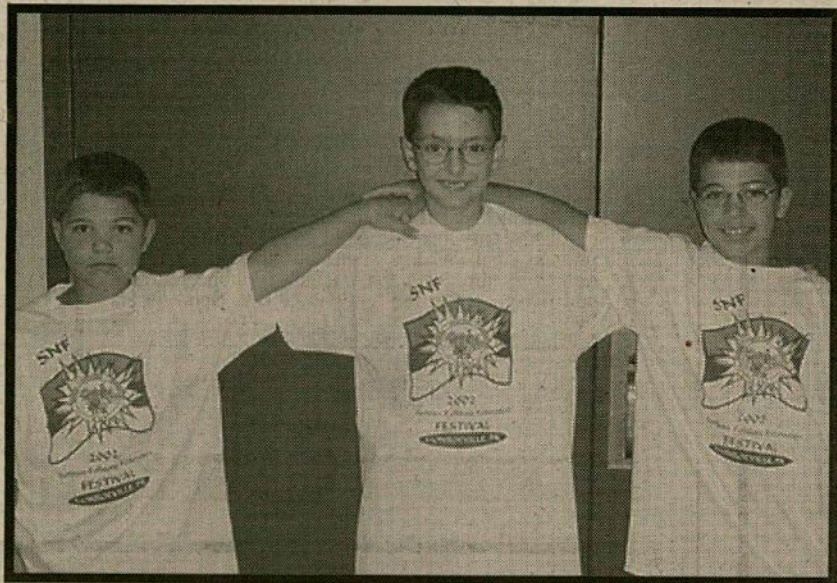
Dovidjenja - Until We Meet Again!

Following Sunday morning's Divine Liturgy, the groups gathered together one more time in the St. Nick Church Hall. They broke bread, exchanged addresses and phone numbers, danced more kolos to the music of Orkestra Junaci, and said their tearful goodbyes. The strangers that entered the church hall on Friday night were now best friends. Being a part of the Serbian Folklore Federation not only ensures that your group will perpetuate their heritage, but it also provides them with another meeting and greeting place, where Serbian kids just like them are doing exactly the same thing: singing, dancing, and playing their Serbian instruments.

...and so the tradition continues. The Serbian Folklore Festival started in Milwaukee. The Serbian baton was handed off to Monroeville and now travels next year to Schererville, IN. Based upon the fun and antics that were provided by the Tromedja parents over the weekend, it will definitely be a great event!

The Festival Committee co-chairpersons, Linda Jovanovich, Janet Pribanic, and Valerie Tassari, wish to thank each and every person who helped to make this year's Festival a success. To the workers, the bakers, the dancers and musicians, the teachers, the parents, and the others who took the time out of their day to come watch the performance, we couldn't have done it without you. To our children, we are so proud of you and your accomplishments. All of the work that was put into this Festival was well worth it because of the joy that it brought to you. Hvala!

We're looking forward to seeing you all next year, June 20, 21, and 22, 2003 at the Third Annual Serbian Folklore Festival in Schererville!



St. Nicholas Tammies

From left to right: Jacob Pribanic, Steven Davic, Joshua Pribanic

ioners who rolled up their sleeves and pitched in as bartenders, grillers, kitchen workers, pop sellers, admission takers, etc. We couldn't have done it without you!

We also want to thank those from our neighboring communities who donated their time and talents to

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A THANK YOU LETTER FROM SNF MAN OF THE YEAR, LAZAR RAKETICH

His Grace, Reverend Clergy, SNF
Executive Board, Honored Guests and
Friends, Greetings,

First, I would like to congratulate my
fellow award winner, Brother James
Berar. It is my privilege to share this
award with someone who has done so
much for the SNF, his church and the
Serbian people.

Second, I would like to thank my
family and friends, who have come to
help me celebrate this special occasion.
Specifically, I would like to thank my
wife Milica for her support over the last
49 years, and my children, including
my daughter-in-law Donna, who have
come from Arizona to share this special
occasion with me.

Last, I would like to thank the SNF
Executive Board for giving me this
honor. I accept this award with humble
gratitude because it comes from an
organization in which I truly believe.

For over 100 years, the SNF has been
dedicated to serving Serbian people and
preserving Serbian culture and heritage.
It has been my privilege to serve and
contribute to such a worthy cause. To
the young people in the audience, and at
my age that means most of you, I urge
you to join the SNF and become an
active member. It is only through an
organization like the Savez that you can
guarantee that your Serbian heritage
will be passed down to your grandchild-
ren and great-grandchildren. Look
around you, this 3-day event is only one
of many examples of the SNF at work.
The SNF does not belong to me or the
Executive Board, it belongs to all of
you. Join, become active. Like your
family, embrace it, enjoy it. What you
give will be returned many times over.
Once again, thank you.

Lazar Raketich



SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS

To let you know that I read your
column "We Get Letters" so
I wish to thank very much
for responding to Alex
Medich's correspondence
in regards to correcting the
spelling of my name from
Stevo Manadich to Stevo Mandich. To
avoid any misunderstanding the spelling
of my name was made on page 97 of the
"SNF FIRST HUNDRED YEARS" book.
It was a summary of how the Serb
National Basketball Tournament was start-
ed and it was written by Borivoje
Karapandjich. Without a doubt the book is
being displayed in the SNF Museum. It
would please me very much if you would
send me a photo copy of page 97 showing
that the misspelling was
corrected.

May I suggest at this point and time that
a translated version of page 97 into the
American language would be proper so
that the ordinary American Serbian youth
could read about how the SNF Serb
National Basketball tourneys got started.
This would show great respect and thank-
fulness to Mr. Nick Radlick and the origi-
nal pioneers of this great event.

And yet another request. Perhaps the
pages in Cyrillic and the translation into
American could be placed in the ad books
of the forthcoming Basketball Tournament
and each tournament thereafter.

As soon as my health will allow I hope
to gather all my Serb National Tournament
paper clippings, pictures and ad books and
donate them to the SNF Museum.

Again 'Thank you' most sincerely for
your cooperation in resolving my name
dilemma. My best regards to all at the
SNF.

—Stevo Mandich

NOTICE

BIDS NOW BEING
ACCEPTED

2004 MID WINTER
GOLF TOURNAMENT

2004 BASKETBALL
TOURNAMENT

Deadline for submitting
bids: 12/31/02

Write to:

SNF Headquarters
One Fifth Ave., 7th Floor
Pittsburgh, PA 15222

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SNF CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Don't miss what's coming up! Make plans now to attend
the rest of this year's Serb National Federation events --

October 12-13 SNF Bowling Tournament
Kansas City, Kansas

Feb 18-22, 2003 Midwinter Golf Tournament
Clearwater, FL

June 20-22, 2003 Folklore Festival,
Schererville, IN

JOIN THE FUN!
JOIN THE ENTERTAINMENT!
JOIN THE SERB NATIONAL FEDERATION!

LETTERS POLICY

The American Srbobran welcomes letters of up to
250 words. We reserve the right to reject letters or
edit for clarity, brevity, good taste and accuracy, to
prevent libel. Writers should limit their letters to
one every three months, include a phone number,
and make certain the letter is signed. Send letters
by:

* Email to sradoja@msn.com

* Fax to 219-322-9712

* Mail to We Get Letters, c/o 1255 Blue Bell Trail,
Schererville, IN 46375

CORRECTIONS & CLARIFICATIONS

Advisory to readers: Space is reserved on this page each issue
for corrections and clarifications. The American Srbobran
promptly corrects all errors of substance. Clarifications are
published when the editor believes the information will help
readers better understand an issue or news event.

SERB AMERICAN WRITERS NO. 36

By Vasa D. Mihailovich

BILJANA OBRADOVIC

Biljana D. Obradovic was born in Yugoslavia. She has also lived in Greece and India. She graduated in English from the University of Belgrade in English Language and Literature. After coming to the USA., she received her M.A. in Creative Writing from Virginia Commonwealth University and Ph.D. in English from the University of Nebraska. She has been teaching at Xavier University of Louisiana for several years. She has published two collections of poems, both bilingual: *Frozen Embraces* (1997) and *Le riche Monde* (1999). Her poems have also appeared in many literary journals and anthologies. She is currently working on an anthology of five American and five Serbian poets. She translates poetry from Serbian into English and from English into Serbian. Among other accolades, she has received the



Masaryk Academy of Arts award in Prague for artistic achievements. She is a member of the Association of Serbian Writers in Belgrade.

Biljana's poems are written in a strong narrative tone, very much in the spirit of the Anglo-Saxon poetry of the twentieth century. Most of her poems are highly dramatic, which can be earthy. Love here is mostly forsaken, but is also full of passion, happiness, betrayal, and sorrow, emphasizing the discrepancy between dreams and reality. There are also poems on historical themes. All in all, Biljana's poetry is vibrant and deeply felt, displaying an interesting example of a poet at home in two languages. The following poem offers a good illustration of the quality of her poetry.

WINDOWS

In America windows open half-way,

the lower half raised next to the higher –
so you can never let in enough air;
you cannot open the window inside
to wash the outside;
once the glass is fit in, that's it!
The window gets dirtier, darker,
dustier – and then you can't see through.
The window becomes another wall,
with no air or sunshine penetrating.
The existence of windows loses meaning,
the people don't look through them any more,
artificial lighting lights the rooms –
what little life there was inside dies,
but now they have invented
artificial fertilizers to help the plants
grow upwards without the sun's rays.
Can they do that for people too?
American scientists, yes, you
who have invented as much already –
is it too hard for you to invent
windows that can be washed?
Or is it a conspiracy against your people
and that which produces life?

WRITING CONTEST UPDATE

Due to the very high volume of entries in the *American Srbobran* writing contest, winners will be announced at a date later than originally expected to allow the panel of reviewers to make a final determina-

tion. Winning entries will be announced in September 18 edition and the printed stories following the announcement.

The *American Srbobran* wishes to thank the many entrants to the writing

contest. There is a vast field of talented writers out there and we are pleased to be able to introduce some of them to our readers.

More later -- Ed

INTERPRETERS NEEDED FOR US ARMY IN THE BALKANS

TRW Systems is currently seeking US citizens to work with the American peacekeeping forces in the Balkans as interpreters.

Our ideal candidates are those who speak Serbo-Croatian, Albanian, Macedonian or other regional languages and English. Candidates should be in good health and willing to try an interesting, exciting, and financially rewarding job in a fascinating part of the world.

● THE PROCESS ●

The first step is to prepare your resume, highlighting your work experience, education, linguistic skills, and any qualifications or experience that would make you an asset. Fax your resume to (703) 968-1276 along with a cover letter and a paragraph in both languages describing why you would like to have this job. All candidates must pass a security background check, a language test, and a medical examination.

● THE JOB ●

Our linguists occupy a variety of positions: interpreting for commanding officers, Military Intelligence units, political advisors, patrols, Military Police units, etc. Interpreters live on a US Army base, eat in the mess hall, and enjoy the same facilities as the soldiers - weight rooms and fitness centers, shopping, movie theaters, etc.

● THE BENEFITS ●

Compensation is \$4,000 per month, with a \$2,000 bonus every six months. You will have two weeks of paid vacation after six months. All interpreters are enrolled in a group insurance policy.

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN WORKING AS AN INTERPRETER IN THE BALKANS, FEEL YOU MEET OUR REQUIREMENTS & ARE ABLE TO DEPLOY, THE FIRST STEP IS TO FAX YOUR RESUME TO (703) 968-1276.

Palacinka Maker

by JoAnn Milivojevic

For a number of years now, my mother, Radmila Milivojevic, has been the palacinka chairwoman for the annual Serb Fest that takes place in July at St. Sava Church in Hobart.

A palacinka (pah-lah-CHEEN-ka) is the Balkan version of the ubiquitous crepe and is enjoyed by Croatians, Serbs, Bosnians, Montenegrins and whoever else might live in that tumultuous land. It is a dish that crosses political lines with great ease.

When my mother asked me to help her and her cache of volunteers, I didn't relish the thought of spending my precious Sunday flipping and rolling up crepes. But my mother is in her 70s, and thoughts of "this may be the last time" enter my head with unfortunate frequency.

Though I make a scant few appearances at this church of my youth, the women of the kitchen warmly welcome me with the traditional three kisses. Their cheeks, sweaty from palacinka work, slide against my skin. I tie on apron and sit down to join the rolling committee. My finger tips burn momentarily as I lift a crepe from the steaming stack. I scoop a tablespoon of cottage cheese, egg and tapioca filling onto the edge and start rolling it up.

"Spread the filling out to the sides," my mother admonishes, "so you have a nice even roll."

We place 34 palacinkes per pan, and I am charged with logging each pan before it is passed to the final prep stages -- to be smeared with a sour cream egg white topping then baked for about an hour. It's not a low-cal dish, not much in Serbian cooking is.

"I wonder how many calories are in these?" I ask the group. No one responds or pays much attention when I answer myself saying, "a lot I bet."

Most of these women are 60-plus-year-old Serbian immigrants. Counting calories was never part of their worlds. My mother and another woman fry the paper thin crepes, each woman handles two heavy cast iron frying pans blackened from years of use. Their faces glow red with heat and shine with sweat. They have been here for three days, frying, rolling, baking and shuttling the trays out to the selling floor where the palacinke are sold as fast as they arrive.

I help my mother prepare another vat of batter. She hugs the metal mixing bowl against her body like an overgrown child she can barely get her arms around. With shapely deltoids a body builder would admire, she quickly whisks a dozen eggs into froth.

"Pour in a gallon of whole milk," she says, "then fill it half with water."

Precision measurements are not part of the mix. She hands me an ordinary coffee cup and instructs me to slowly add 5 pounds, plus three cups of flour.

I'm basically a shy person who has worked very hard to crawl out of my shell. With this job, I feel more connected to the event and the people. When I take a fresh tray to the floor, I stop, chat briefly, then push on saying, "gotta go, I'm on palacinka duty."

After a few hours, I am tired but also pumped, the nearly full church hall is buzzing with buyers. Palacinke can be made the traditional Serbian way with cottage cheese filling then baked, with ground nuts and sugar, or simply filled with your favorite jam and dusted with powder sugar.

"We need more sweet ones," I announce wheeling the cart back into the kitchen. My hands are sticky with strawberry and apricot jam.

I roll fast and wonder if we can exceed my mother's 3,000 palacinke goal in the hours that remain. Other volunteers come and go, but there are a few constants throughout the day. After nearly three days of this my mother should look and feel worn out, but she doesn't. If I have just half her enthusiasm when I reach age 70, I'll be happy.

She constantly challenges herself. Rather than using a spatula to turn the crepe, she attempts to flip it in the pan as her skillful co-worker does. She manages to flip it over, but it bunches up a little and she must smooth it out with her fingers. Everyone laughs and I am guiltily glad that she isn't perfect at it like she seems to be at so many other things.

A traditional Serbian brass band of young boys and girls stops by the kitchen to serenade us. Their young faces are expressionless as they expertly "oom pahh" their way through traditional folk songs. My mother can barely hold back her tears.

"Radmila," a co-worker says to her, "you're crying."

"No, no," she replies, "my eyes are just watering from frying the palacinke."

Other women also are teary-eyed. I get caught up in their emotion and I'm not sure why. I suppose for these women it's tears of sorrow and joy. Sorrow for the tremendous losses Serbians have endured, and joy that the culture lives on in this young band.

By late evening it is announced that my mother and her committee exceeded last year's record by 19 palacinke -- they were honored with a standing ovation.

I purchased a few palacinke to take back to my Chicago home. As I drove down the Skyway, the sinking orange ball sun turned hazy from the belching smoke of the U.S. Steel Gary Works mill. My hair smelled of economy-brand vegetable oil and cottage cheese, a thick slightly sweet scent. I listened to a Serbian CD and looked forward to eating my hard-earned palacinka for breakfast. I like mine warmed with just a little bit of sugar sprinkled on top.

ENCHANTMENT OF THE WORLD: SERBIA JoAnn Milivojevic is the author of *Enchantment of the World: Serbia*, a book published by Grolier's, a division of Scholastic. This full color hardback book is filled with beautiful photos, maps, facts and information about Serbian history, art, culture, geography and daily life. JoAnn recently updated the book to reflect the massive changes that have taken place in Serbia since 1998. The second edition of *Enchantment of the World: Serbia* is due out in 2003. It is distributed to schools and libraries nationwide and in Canada. It's also available through Amazon.com. For more information, contact the author directly at joannmil@aol.com.

Serbian Palacinke

1 cup whole milk
2 eggs
1 cup flour
1/2 teaspoon salt
1 teaspoon sugar
1 tablespoon oil

- * Beat egg lightly, add the rest of the ingredients, blend well, let stand 1/2 hour (make sure batter has no lumps).
- * Before frying add 2 tablespoons water to mixture and blend.
- * Heat the frying pan, pour 1/3 cup of batter and spread evenly, drizzle oil around edges of the batter to prevent sticking. * Fry (in 10-inch non-stick pan) for about one minute or until the color changes to a pale yellow and there is no more raw batter.
- * Flip it over, when it turns a light golden it is ready.
- * You can fill with your favorite jam; fold twice into a triangle, sprinkle with powdered sugar and enjoy. Or bake with traditional filling and topping (see below).

Filling

2 eggs lightly beaten
16 ounces cottage cheese
3 ounces cream cheese
2 tablespoons tapioca
1/4 cup sugar

- * Blend all ingredients together.
- * Spread about 2 to 3 tablespoons of mixture on each palacinka, roll it up.
- * Place the filled palacinkes side by side in a baking dish, they should fit snugly against each other.
- * Spread topping (see below) over the palacinkes and bake.

Topping

- 8 ounces sour cream
1 egg yolk beaten
2 tablespoons sugar
- * Blend ingredients, spread evenly on top of palacinkes.
 - * Bake at 350 degrees for 20 to 25 minutes.
 - * When sour cream bubbles, it's done. Let cool to room temperature, then enjoy.
 - * Makes 5 to 6 palacinkes.

Recipe provided
by Radmila Milivojevic.

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Photos by Gregg Gearhart/THE TIMES

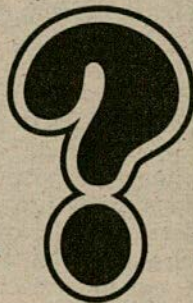
Did you know?



Interesting &
informative facts
about the
Serb National
Federation

FACT NO. 1

Did you know that as of December 31, 2001, the Serb National Federation had \$48,157,000 of Life Insurance in force? This is an increase of 24% since 1997 and includes 14,941 certificates. This obligation is fully reserved in full compliance and accordance with the Pennsylvania State Insurance Department statutory requirements.



The next issue of the American Srbobran
is September 4th
Articles are due by August 23rd.

MEMORIALS

The American Srbobran welcomes the publication of Memorials. Memorials may be placed in the paper by mail, fax or email, and should include all information as it is to appear. Any photographs must be clearly identified on the back with the name of the deceased. For return of photographs, a self-addressed stamped envelope must be included and the return address must also appear on the back of the photo. Memorials are limited to the below sizes. It is best to send your copy in early as meeting deadlines is not always a guarantee of publication in a particular issue due to space considerations.

Send Memorials to:

Serb National Federation
American Srbobran - Memorial
One Fifth Ave. - 7th Floor
Pittsburgh, PA 15222

Fax Memorials to:

219-365-5683

Email Memorials to:

twelr136@aol.com, sradoja@msn.com

MEMORIALS

Size	Cost	Cost with Photo
1/16 page (approximately 1 column x 3-1/4")	\$16	\$20
1/8 page (approximately 1 column x 6-1/2" or 2 columns x 3-1/4")	\$30	\$35
1/4 page (approximately 2 columns x 6-1/2" or 1 column x 13")	\$45	\$50

Memorial ads are for placement by members at their request in the size and manner chosen by them. This does not in any way change the policy of the American Srbobran to continue publishing obituaries for members and supporters at no charge.

Obituaries of deceased members will continue to be published at no charge to SNF members and at a minimal cost for non-SNF members and their families.

Obituaries

+ Sam Prisuta

Sam Prisuta, American-Serb Hero
By Grandson Sam Prisuta and Milana Karlo Bizic

"If I could grow up to be anyone in the whole wide world, it would be to follow in the steps of my Hero, my Grandfather .Big Sam!"

So wrote namesake, grandson Sam Miller, about his Grandfather Sam Prisuta, for a research paper entitled "My Hero," a few years ago. Thanks to young Sam's research, we American Serbs can have insight into the life of a man who was academically and athletically talented in high school, flew C-47s throughout Europe during WWII, and whose name was listed in the prominent book, "Who's Who in Engineering" before being written in the Pearly Gates BOOK OF GOD on June 29, 2002.

Born January 9, 1924 in Aliquippa, Sam was the son of the late Maxim and Angeline Prisuta. He was preceded in death by two brothers, Milo and Marko Prisuta, and a sister, Joanne Prisuta. Sisters Mildred Vranesevich and Eva Vitas are still living.

Sam is survived by his wife of 55 years, Susan Chevront Prisuta, whom he married June 8, 1947. The couple had 2 sons (and daughters-in-law), Sam (Cheryl) and Bruce (Linda), and a daughter (son-in-law), Carol (Tom). All lived in close proximity to their father. The eleven grandchildren, Melanie and Lucas Prisuta, Beau, Jesse, Bradley, Bruce and Leah Prisuta, and Tommy, Sammy, Brittany and Max Miller and a great-granddaughter, Jane Elaine Prisuta, brought much joy to an old man's heart.

Sam graduated with honors from Aliquippa High School in 1942, pursuing the Academic track. He was a member of the Bach Choir, Latin Club, Band, Orchestra, Cross Country Track Team, National Honor Society and the High School Newspaper.

He enlisted in the Air Force for Pilot Training in 1943 when he was nineteen years old, after working a few odd jobs. Basic training was in Miami Florida, and then he went to Aeronautics, Navigation, Weather and Higher Math classes in Galesburg, Illinois. From there it was on to Garden City, Kansas, for Basic Flight training in a BT-13 single engine plane. Two other cadets studying with him lost their lives when they failed to pull out of a spin. One time Sam almost lost his life when ice and snow that had accumulated while he was practicing his landings broke up the lift of the plane.

He was commissioned as a 2nd Lieutenant in Frederick, Oklahoma, after learning to fly a twin engine UC78. He became an Instructor for the Airforce Office Training School before volunteering for overseas duty. His mission (after only 4 hours of training in a McDonald Douglas C-47!) was to fly two missions dropping para-packs to Allied troops trapped in Bastogne.

Sam recalled that one of the best Christmas gifts he ever received was when he and his crew managed to force land at an abandoned airfield in France after being hit by one of the para-packs flying out of the plane ahead. This damage caused him to fly with only one engine at tree-top level, and the Germans were having a field day trying to shoot them out of the sky!

He mustered many other missions flying supplies, wounded American soldiers, prisoners of war, and misplaced persons of all nationalities to various places in England, France, Belgium and Germany before returning stateside and being discharged in December, 1945.

Once home, he enrolled in the University of Pittsburgh's Metallurgical Engineering Department, going to both day and night school, which allowed him to graduate in three years instead of the customary four.

Jones and Laughlin Steel, one of the largest steel making plants in the world at the time, offered him a job as an Inspector in the Wire Mill. From there, his career included the Mill, Open Hearth, Blast Furnace and Bessemer Departments. After working in the Wire Mill as an Investigator, he was transferred to the Seamless Tube Mill as a Development Metallurgist. He published an article in "World Oil Magazine" entitled "High Strength Oil Well Casing."

Sam also was employed at Vulcan Crucible, Vulcan-Kidd, Colonial Steel, N F & M International, working himself up from Assistant Manager to Vice President of Operations. The later plant processed titanium materials for the aircraft and space program. Niece Vangie Prisuta proudly notes her Uncle Sam was quite the inventor, too. Before retiring, Sam worked for Shasta, a relatively new company that processed material for a large number of steel companies, and did consulting work in Canton, Ohio and St. Louis, Missouri. He was also past president of the American Society of Metals. No wonder why Sam was featured in "Who's Who in Engineering" which lists the more prominent individuals in the Steel Making Industry!

Young Sam wrote of his Grandfather, "My hero doesn't wear a cape or go out to save people for fun, but he learned about life and its struggles at a very young age. He's been ill for awhile now and he's teaching us about life. He has been through several operations and has taught us all to learn to deal with any situation that comes along. He now goes to Dialysis three times a week, but he still brings joy and excitement everywhere he goes. He makes all the patients laugh. He recently had his left leg amputated, but there isn't anyone who doesn't love my Grandfather. He has taught us all that you can do whatever you have to if you put your mind to it. I was named after my Grandfather, and I'm very proud of that. He's my hero because of all of his hardships and the way he handles them. If I could grow up to be anyone in the whole world word, it would be to follow in the steps of my Hero, my Grandfather, Big Sam!"

What better tribute could any Grandfather hope to have, and better yet, Sam heard it while he was still alive. V. Rev. Fr. Stevan Stepanov officiated the mass at St. Elijah's S.E.O. Church in Aliquippa and at the Woodlawn Cemetery in Aliquippa before the U.S. Honor Guard gave a 21-gun salute in his memory, and presented the American flag draped on his casket, to his widow, Susan. Beforehand, Bobby Sparcie spoke on behalf of the St. Elijah's Men's Cornerstone Club, and his sister, Eva, read a poem about Sam having the strength of an oak tree. Sam was also a member of the American Serbian Eastern Rite Brotherhood (ASERBS). Vjecnaja Pamjat to a great American Serb!

Obituaries

+ Veljko Miljus

On July 21, 2002 into the cold waters of lake Michigan, vanished Veljko Miljus, the warmest heart of Serbian America. Veljko was born on March 18, 1950, as a Serb from Kordun and died as the Serb of Krajina, Bosnia, Hertzegovina, Kosovo, Vojvodina and Shumadia. The last ten years of his life Veljko devoted to founding and leading of the humanitarian organization "Save Displaced Serbs - SDS", originally based in Chicago, USA. Starting in 1993, to this day, SDS-Chicago has distributed to the Serbian war orphans and invalids almost 2.5 million US dollars. For years, regular aid has been coming to two thousand families. Occasionally the aid was extended to several hundreds of additional families. Through this enormous effort, Veljko and his friends demonstrated to the thousands of



Serbian youngsters that Serbs are not those noisy and empty heads who ingratiate themselves to foreigners by spitting on the nation of their own parents, nor are Serbs those selfish (anti-)war profiteers. For those children, whose fathers died following the sacred duty to defend their people, Serbs are those, like Veljko, who love them and care about their future, just as their own fathers would.

Veljko's voyage was charted by the loss of his own father, Mile, in 1959. In 1964, Veljko came with his mother to the United States, grew up in Illinois, attended schools, worked the summers and graduated with the prestigious Degree in Chemical Engineering from Purdue University. As a distinguished young engineer Veljko joined a renown Mobile Chemical Corporation, participated in the design of major chemical plants and, with a group of friends initiated an engineering business with a goal of constructing petroleum processing plants in Iran. The Islamic revolution in that country put an end to those plans in 1978. Veljko was a practical person and with his wife Angelina, they married in 1974, started a travel agency in 1979. By 1991, Veljko and Angelina's agency expanded to seven offices in the Chicago area and 1 office in Northern California.

In 1991, Veljko got disturbed by the twisted images of the Serbian people and misrepresented causes of the conflict in former Yugoslavia, in the American media. Veljko invested his enormous energy into an attempt to spread the truth about the interethnic relationships in than a communist country and in particular about the sufferings of Serbs in Croatia. Veljko initiated formation of Serbian Democratic Party (Srpska Demokratska Stranka) branch in Chicago and collected funds to finance Serbian media effort. Unfortunately, those who controlled American media

would not recognize any other truth but her own.

After two years, Veljko changed the direction. He started the Krayina Investment Corporation with the goal of awakening the entrepreneurial spirit of the Serbian people through small business loans and direct investment in Krajina and Republic Srpska. At the same time the tragic events in Western Serbian lands force Veljko's SDS into collection and distribution of aid for the families of fallen soldiers. Veljko's approach was most direct. He asked American Serbs to choose a name of an orphaned child or a war invalid and accept as their responsibility to provide \$1 of support per day for that child or invalid. In one of the offices of his travel agency, Veljko organized a bureau which collected information on Serbian war orphans

and started a correspondence with thousands of Serbian patriots throughout the United States asking them for donations. Sanctions imposed on Yugoslavia in early 1990-s made any normal transfer of funds through the banking or postal system impossible. Placing his money (and his head) in a bag Veljko and a few of his friends would travel through Krajina, Republic Srpska and Serbia every three months. They would gather mothers or guardians of the Serbian war orphans and deliver the money directly into their hands. Aid was most modest, \$30 per child per month, but for thousands of families that was the only real help they would get throughout the war. Veljko's genius for practical solutions requested from every recipient family to write a letter to their donors acknowledging the receipt of every single donation. There was no possibility for fraud or mismanagement of funds.

Charitable Foundations are a huge industry in the United States. Typically, 70% of collected funds get used up by the salaries of the personnel and other internal expenses of those organizations. Veljko created a system where 100% of collected funds was delivered to the intended recipients. Veljko used his travel agency to reduce the cost of travel to Yugoslavia. Still those costs were large. Correspondence with donors and recipients was relentless involving significant additional expenses. All of those costs, for years on end, were paid for, with a small help from a few friends, by Veljko himself. The precise amount would never be known but certainly is in hundreds of thousands of dollars. It should be understood that had Veljko, over those years, invested his energy into his travel agency, that business would have expanded to more than double its current size. Veljko made a gift worth a large travel agency for the benefit of Serbian

war orphans.

Veljko was never an intolerant man. On occasion, he would make a mild joke at the expense of Croatian evil or Muslim lunacy. It was impossible to provoke him to utter an ugly or angry word. News about the sufferings of Serbs in Krajina, Bosnia or Kosovo Veljko would accept with sorrow and resignation, never with anger. Some times he would make a questioning comment: "Look what those people did?". He would comment Serb misbehavior in the same manner.

Within the Serbian American community, atomized by the intrigues of Yugoslav Communist Secret Service, Veljko was a truly unique figure. He ignored any and all of ideologies. His goal was to save the children and he would never allow any Serbian politician or "politikant" to sway him from his path. On one occasion, in 1995, in occupied Banja Luka, he encountered obstruction of his work. The excuse was that the name of Veljko's charitable organization still coincided with the name of Karadzic's party. Veljko did not argue much, he changed the name to Save Displaced Serbs. Initials were kept so that his donors and aid recipients could recognize them. Veljko was concerned with the well being of Serbian children and would not waste time on political arms twisting.

The organizations Veljko established have seen many faces. Almost all were beautiful people and patriots, such as Seizovic, and Medic families, Mrs. Biljana Djelovic or Mr. Tihomir Jankovic, Mrs. Jelena Ristic Cintora, Mrs. Zivka Spasojevic, Mr. Borislav Zdrinja and many others. A few were there to capture some imaginary power or simple squander other people's achievements. Not once Veljko had to listen to claims that he was enriching himself from the donations collecting by SDS. The brave heart bravely pretended that it could withstand anything. Last year it cracked. Veljko underwent quadruple bypass heart surgery. Finally, the medical and family reasons forced Veljko to transfer the leadership of SDS to a group of faithful friends. Veljko was delighted by the beautiful people who took the charge. He knew that his effort was not in vain. The only misgiving he had was the fact that in the archives of SDS there were 10,000 names and addresses of Serbian war orphans still waiting for a generous donor.

The last few months of his life Veljko spent planning how to help his children start their own successful businesses. He was convinced that they will be better persons than he was.

With the death of Veljko Miljus Serbian people became smaller by a giant, but gained a legend that guide them out of the bloody mud created by the followers of false religions. Amongst the children Veljko touched with his kindness new giants will grow to lead and protect his people.

Veljko is survived by his beloved wife Angelina, daughter Elizabeth (27) and son Alexander (26) and mother Nevenka Jovanovich, born Trkulja.

Zoran B. Djordjevic, a friend

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NEED SOME EXTRA MONEY? WE NEED SALESPeOPLE

SNF members interested in selling advertising in the *American Srbobran* are welcome to contact English Section Editor Sandi Radoja to get details on how to earn extra money easily.

The *American Srbobran* reaches a continental audience of Serbs, members and readers. Contract advertising at discounted rates is an other avenue for promoting support for our Serb National Federation while getting excellent exposure for your business or profession.

For more information on joining the contract advertising team, contact Sandi by email sradoja@msn.com. She will send details on how you can earn some extra money easily selling contract ads in the *American Srbobran*.

KENNYWOOD—CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1
once again) will be re-opening consulates in the United States, starting with New York, Chicago, and Los Angeles.

PRAVI SRBIN, PRAVI GUSLAR

At the turn of the last century, Perun Perunovic, an authentic Serbian guslar from the rugged mountains of Crna Gora (Montenegro) toured the United States. According to SNF historian Milana "Mim" Bizic, whose father Milan Karlo at one time edited the *American Srbobran*, Perun was greeted as a hero and a true junak in all of the Serbian mining camps and colonies that he visited. He brought the spirit and the song of the Serbs with him.

In 2002, many decades later, Perun's great nephew, Boro Roganovic, also born in Montenegro (Niksic) but now living in Hammond, Indiana, played the gusla at the 85th Annual Serbian Day. This young Serbian grandfather was resplendent in his splendid Serbian nosnja, and brought not a few tears to audience members as they witnessed this time honored Serbian tradition live on in the voice and in the gudalo (bowstring) of Boro Roganovic.

Like the pioneers of the SNF before them, the current Serbs of the Greater Pittsburgh and Tri-State area, and their many friends visiting from afar, once again enjoyed the guslar stylings of the Perunovic/Roganovic families. It was as if the songs of the early 1900s were somehow carried by the winds of history, catching up to the songs of 2002, and all converging in one uncommon moment in time.

Any Serb or Serbian organization, especially Church School, interested in having Mr. Roganovic educate them about the costume, instrument, history, oral tradition, and songs of the Serbian bards can contact him at (219)937-9485. May God bless and keep him, may he be granted many strong and healthy grandsons (who play the gusle), may our noble oral tradition always be a part of us, and may there be a member of Cika Boro's clan singing new epics to our grandchildren at Serbian Day one hundred years from now. Amin Boze!

SMILES FROM SMEDEREVO

"Pesma o Kosovu", a song that is older than the Declaration of Independence, was performed for the first time in North America by the Kir Stefan the Serb girls' choir from Smederevo, Serbia. This choir, a winner of numerous gold and other medals throughout the world, comprises of 22 girls ranging in age from 16 to 24. They were in Pittsburgh en route to performances in New York City and at the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C., after which they fly to the Orient and appear in Korea.

Milan Ilic is director and conductor, while Attorney Srdjan Milosavljevic is President of the Board. The girls choir ended their appearance at the Kennywood show with the inspirational "Vostani Srbije" — "Arise o Serbia!" This song was dedicated to SNF Lodge 188, "Vidovdan", of Ambridge, Penna., as an expression of the Federation's gratitude for the real estate that Ambridge Serbs recently transferred to the Savez.

With beautiful and talented young ambassadors like the singers from Smederevo, there can be doubt that Serbia will one day soon be back on her feet, that the troubles of the past will be left behind, and that all will be well in the land of our forefathers. Boze daj, and may the Good Lord bless and keep these fine young ladies. They are the voice and hope of Serbia.

TAMBURE, IZ BEAVER DOLINE

The Beaver Valley Junior Tamburitans of Aliquippa, Penna., provided the solos, tambura selections and kolo dancing portion of the Kennywood program. They are under the very capable direction of Rose Husnik and Daniella Milanovich, and the performance of these thirty dedicated young tamburitans delighted all in attendance.

The Beaver Valley show consisted of kolos from the Serbian heartland of Sumadija, dances from central Serbia, and three Serbian songs. Harmonious duets and trios were performed by Laura Ralich, Nicole Hixenbaugh, Stephanie August, Natalie Jovonovich, Samantha Milosh, Malissa Ridjaneck and Maria Hixenbaugh.

This was Beaver Valley's seventh performance since reorganizing in 2002, with two more coming up in August. The parents and children of this organization are to be heartily commended for resurrecting the long tradition of Serbian tambu-

ra and folk groups in Aliquippa, and therefore merit our strong support. Good luck Beaver Valley, and keep up the good work — the Serb National Federation is rooting for you!

SNF Photographer for the weekend was Georgett Brnilovich Osman, also from Aliquippa, who is thanked for capturing the events of the weekend on film for all posterity.

LIGHTS IN THE DARKNESS

The Three Day Committee selected two special charities to profit from this year's event: Monastery Marcha in Richfield, Ohio, and the Serbian Orthodox Church's office of External Affairs in Washington, D.C.

Mother Anna Radetic and Sister Anastasija attended on behalf of Marcha. The monastic community of Richfield struggles daily to uplift the Serbian Orthodox people in prayer and fasting, and to win the Good Lord's favor for all of us. If Churches are spiritual hospitals where healing can be found, monasteries are truly spiritual intensive care centers. The work done at Marcha will affect us for all of eternity, and merits the devoted support of every Orthodox Christian Serb, and all of their friends who love God, strive to work for Him, and desire good for man and for the world in which he lives.

Mother Anna spoke to the crowd assembled in Kennywood and her mere presence touched the throngs of Pennsylvania and other Serbs whose hearts she has captured. She has the prayers and support of scores of faithful scattered throughout the region.

In addition, Fr. Irinej Dobrijevic, who spent time in Pittsburgh as a deacon during the tenure of then Bishop Christopher Kovacevich, spoke on behalf of the Office of External Affairs. Fr. Irinej is a Hiermonk who serves as Executive Director of the Serbian Church's Washington-based office. The miraculous work that he does on behalf of truth, justice, the true interests of the American people, and the legitimate rights of the Serbian Orthodox and other people affected by U.S. government policy, has earned him profound respect the world over. Like Mother Anna, he too fights the good fight in the arena appointed unto him by the Lord. His words and the professional manner of his delivery were appreciated by all, and commented on by many.

PLEASE DIG DEEP

Attorney Alex Malich has served as Master of Ceremonies for the last several years, but this year he made a special plea, urging all to dig deeper than in years past: "If you love your people, and you want to help," he implored "please give even more this year." The work of Monastery Marcha and the Office of External Affairs is much too important for all of us for any Serb to look the other way.

It is not too late to donate. Checks can be made out to the SNF (which will split your donation between the two charities), earmarked "02 Three Day Charity", and mailed to: SNF • One Fifth Avenue • 7th Floor • Pittsburgh, PA 15222

Also, donations may be made via master card and/or visa by calling the SNF at 1-800-538-7372. Let's show Mother Anna and Fr. Irinej how strongly our SNF fraternal family appreciates them, and how we all stand behind their work!

JAMES BERAR, SNF L-98

SNF Vice President Steve Balach of Duluth, Minnesota, introduced and presented a Person of the Year award to Brother James Berar of SNF L-98, Detroit, Michigan.

Brother Berar's wife, +Sophie Stanojevich, passed away in 1998. He has two sons: Robert, who was present, and James.

Brother Berar spoke about what the SNF meant to him, and about its extremely competitive products. He is credited for signing up vast numbers of Michigan Serbs into the Federation, and his hard work means much to the future progress of our beloved Matica. His award was well merited, and his comments well received. Zivio Brate Zivojin, na mnogaja ljeta!

LAZAR RAKETIC, SNF L-68

Vice President Balach also introduced and presented another plaque of recognition to Man of the Year Lazar Raketic of L-68, Farrell, Penna. Brother Raketic is responsible for enrolling over 150 members into the Serb National Federation, and is currently working hard to also enroll the members of the Serbian colony in Warren, Ohio.

His lovely wife Milica (nee Preradovic, originally of Midland, Penna.), was in attendance, as

were his children Smilja, Jovan, Petar and Mark, and their families. Also present were his nephews from New Jersey, SNF members Nikola Raketic and Novica Vudragovic.

Brother Raketic spoke about his involvement with the SNF and other Serbian organizations. His example encouraged all to support our great fraternal family and to double up our efforts on membership, the lifeblood of the federation. Zivio brate Raketic, pravi Sbrin! Your work is appreciated.

GOD BLESS AMERICA

The show ended with the Beaver Valley children singing "God bless America". They then waved goodbye as they descended the stage, and the 85th Annual Serbian Day Show in Kennywood Park came to an end.

OFF TO THE CLUB

After the show, peppy tambura music was provided by Radost at the American Serbian club, where the cevaps were hot and waiting, while on the ground floor the well loved Randy Lugares provided kolo dance music amid his ever flawless Serbian vocals.

SUNCE I VODA

"The Majestic" riverboat sailed at 1:00 P.M. from the Gateway Clipper Fleet Dock at Station Square, Southside Pittsburgh, Penna., on Sat., July 20, 2002.

Entertainment was provided by New York City's dynamic and polished show, Frula. This was their debut appearance in Pittsburgh, a new treat for the traditional boat ride crowd. They were a hit. Pittsburgh Serbs hope that this Manhattan-Pittsburgh connection grows stronger over time, and that the veseli hours spent together on the boat are just the beginning of many more.

Roughly half way between Chicago and New York, Pittsburgh is becoming more and more recognized as an ideal meeting spot for the large Serbian communities of those two great metropolises, plus numerous other cities in between, as witnessed by the large crowds from the entire East and Midwest that converge during Three Day weekend each year.

Half way between New York City and Pittsburgh lays the sleepy hamlet of Steelton, whose friendly and pretty representatives, Cheri Klipa (Secretary of the SNF's National Trial Board) and Chrissy Klipa, sold raffle tickets during the boat ride on behalf of this year's charities. Thank you lepotice, and, as always, "sretan put!"

BACK TO THE CLUB

Frula put on a tremendous show at the South Side Serbian club later that evening. Strolling male and female vocalists, a sauntering saxophone player, other musicians mingling among the dancers, and a dazzling light show, combined for a uniquely entertaining evening in the Serbian music capital of America. These big city Serbs really know how to stir up the fun.

Meanwhile, downstairs the ever vibrant and extremely popular Junaci had all of the young Serbs and their friends dancing until the wee hours of the morning. It was a cardio workout that would have given Richard Simmons a heart attack.

LITURGY, PARASTOS, AND GRAVE BLESSINGS

Divine Liturgy was served at Holy Trinity Cathedral in Pittsburgh on Sunday, July 21, 2002, with Fr. Rajko Kotic officiating. Responses were sung by the Holy Trinity Choir under the direction of Delores Belich.

A parastos followed for General Dragoljub Draza Mihailovich and all deceased SNF officers and members. Afterwards, Fr. Kotic blessed the graves of deceased SNF dignitaries buried at the St. Sava Cemetery in Castle Shannon, including past SNF Presidents Sava Hajdin, Simo Werlinich, and Robert Rade Stone, as well as SNF Hall of Famers Nick Stone, Mileta Milovanovich, Krste Kujacic, Milan Trivuncich, Stevo Senjan, and Walter Ranick. Slava im, and may the work that they did for the Federation always inspire us all!

Many thanks to Olga Dimitrijevic for preparing the koljivo, and to John Kasich for making the arrangements pertaining to grave blessings.

PITTSBURGH PICNIC PROGRAM

SNF National Treasurer George Topich acted as Master of Ceremonies at Sunday's program, which followed at the Castle Shannon picnic

grounds. Capturing the spirit of the weekend, he urged all present to generously support this year's charities, and his words were well received.

Featured on the brief program were Vice President Balach, Mother Anna, the American national anthem sung by Eileen Bozovich, Ann Kosanovich, Joanne Wuchenich, and Joyce Wuchenich (did we hear correctly? Is there a Pittsburgh Pirates home game appearance in the cards for this Holy Trinity quartet?), the Canadian national anthem sung by Andrea Medich, and the Serbian national anthem sung by Nino Karas. Closing remarks were offered by Men of the Year James Berar and Lazar Raketic.

For those who could still walk, Junaci provided dance music, while Radost entertained the tambura crowd. Mouth watering lamb was provided by Farrell's Gojko Grkinich. One on-looker commented that it was heartwarming to see three of Nick and Jennie Musulin's granddaughters — Jenna Lucas, Thea Lucas, and Sabrina Musulin — work the picnic crowd with the 50/50 raffle on behalf of the Serbian charities.

THANK YOU "HOLY TRINITY SERBS"

This year's picnic was run smoothly the Holy Trinity Cathedral. Many thanks to Fr. Kotic, Cathedral Board President Natalie Kunkle, Chairwoman Paula Winowich, Kitchen Chair Millie Radovich, Bar Chair Jeff Dean, Jack of all Trades Dane Topich, Lara Trbovich, Jennifer Bobick, and all Pittsburgh Cathedral Board members and parishioners for rolling back their sleeves and doing such a remarkably efficient job.

WELCOME BACK TETA LAURA

Picnic goers were elated to see former Southsider Laura Latinka Karlo, still hospitalized after a March 21, 2002, fall that led to a hematoma and possible stroke, at the picnic. Karlo's late husband Milan was the famous editor of the *American Srbobran* in decades past, while her daughter is the well known SNF historian Milana Mim Bizic. For all those who asked, Laura can be reached at the following address: Masonic Village of Sewickley • Masonic Drive, Room 236 • Sewickley, PA 15143

HVALA, ZORA

Three Day could never be what it is if it were not for SNF Home Office Manager Zora Trbovich working quietly in the background. Although she always shuns public acknowledgement, she is thanked for the sacrifice that she expends on behalf of our Serbian fraternal family. In addition, the girls in the home office are inundated with extra work each year as thousands of Serbs from throughout the country make plans to descend on Pittsburgh for this mammoth family event. Anne, Sylvia, and Georgene: your fellow Serbs appreciate your efforts. Hvala to all!

NITECAPS AT MARGARITAVILLE

The traditional, unofficial end to Serbian Day weekend always takes place on Pittsburgh's Southside, where the young folk congregate at Margaritaville, capping off the weekend with even more late night merriment. Friday and Saturday nights just aren't enough. According to one attendee, "it was packed!" Can there be any doubt that it was fun?

BACK TO THE BUSES

Michael Vukelich of Aliquippa suggests that all area lodges, and even lodges from far away, sponsor buses to Kennywood, the boat, Church services, and/or the picnic next year for the benefit of those Serbs who depend on help with transportation. In decades past, before the advent of a car in every garage, Kennywood was flooded with buses on Serbian Day. It is time to reclaim this tradition.

There are many additional people who would love to be a part of three day weekend but need help getting there. Although it is a small undertaking that would not take much effort at all, is there any better project that could be tackled by our lodges?

This is a good suggestion to start mulling over even now. Chartered bus companies should be contacted and buses placed on reserve for the third weekend of July, 2003. Time flies by fast and the excitement is already mounting. There are only 334 days until Three Day Weekend, 2003. What surprises are in store for us next year?

SPORTS

St. George of Kansas City, KS to Host SNF Bowling Tournament

continued from page 1

your well wishes and support the event and growth of our Kansas City community. To allow for printing and preparation, the deadline is August 25, 2002 so don't delay! For information on how to place your message, please contact:

Jelena Bajich Miller
406 N. Washington
Raymore, MO 64083
(816) 331-9191

The pricing structure is as follows (Checks made payable to St. George Serbian Orthodox Church):

Full Page (4 1/2 X 7 1/2), \$100.00
Half Page (4 1/2 X 3 3/4), \$65.00
Quarter Page (2 1/4 X 3 3/4), \$40.00
Eighth Page (2 1/4 X 1 7/8), \$25.00
List of Prijatelj (Friends), \$5.00

TROPHIES:

As of this date, most trophies are still available for sponsorship. Individuals interested in sponsoring a trophy should contact Mark Milosevich at (816) 525-4449 as soon as possible.

ITINERARY "SNAPSHOT":

Friday: Evening welcome festivities at St. George Memorial Hall with music by the Bajich Brothers Orchestra of Kansas City, Kansas.

Saturday: Bowling at Incred-A-Bowl facility (singles and doubles) commencing at 8:30 A.M.; Evening festivities at St. George Memorial Hall with music by Jedinstvo of Phoenix, Arizona (downstairs) and Junaci of Pittsburgh, PA (upstairs).

Sunday: Bowling at Incred-A-Bowl facility (teams) commencing at 9:00 A.M.; Liturgy at St. George Serbian Orthodox Church in Kansas City, KS at 10:00 A.M.; Banquet followed by Awards Ceremony at St. George Memorial Hall; Music provided by Junaci of Pittsburgh, PA.

Questions regarding the weekend events can be directed to Dmetar Dragovich at (913) 393-0765 (evenings) or ddragov@aol.com.

HOTEL:

Doubletree Hotel - Overland Park
10100 College Boulevard
Overland Park, KS 66210
Tel: (913) 451-6100
www.doubletree.com

Please reference the "SNF Bowling Tournament" when making your reservations. Room rates for the event have been negotiated at \$69 per night for either single or double occupancy. The block of rooms and pricing reserved for this event will be guaranteed until September 11, 2002, so please make your arrangements soon.

BOWLING LANES:

The bowling facility is located approximately five (5) minutes away from the hotel:

Incred-A-Bowl
8500 West 151st Street
Overland Park, Kansas 66223
Tel: (913) 851-1700
www.incredabowl.com (See the virtual tour)

SERB NATIONAL FEDERATION

57TH Annual All Events Handicap Ten Pin Tournament
Saturday & Sunday, October 12 & 13, 2002

Incred-A-Bowl • 8500 W. 151st Street • Overland Park, KS 66223 • 913-851-1700

—Sponsored by—

SNF Lodge 43 "St. George" and St. George Serbian Orthodox Church Kansas City, Kansas

ENTRY FEE OF \$18.00 PER PERSON PER EVENT MUST ACCOMPANY THIS ENTRY FORM.

Mail to: Serb National Federation, One Fifth Avenue - 7th Floor,
Pittsburgh, PA 15222

Prize Fee \$7.00
3-Game Fee 9.00
Tourney Exp. 2.00
Total 18.00
Per Event

OPTIONAL—(SPECIAL ALL EVENTS \$2 EXTRA)

ENTRY DEADLINE

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2002

Office Use Only

Amt. Recd. _____

Amt. Due. _____

Refund _____

TEAM NAME: _____ CITY: _____

ENTRY FORM

PRINT FULL NAME OF BOWLERS IN ORDER OF BOWLING

Name First, Last	Lodge	Current Average	SNF Average

SINGLES AND DOUBLES

Give Full Names (Please Print)

	Average	Special All-Events \$2.00 Per Person
1.		Yes No
2.		
1.		
2.		
1.		
2.		

AMOUNT SENT WITH THIS ENTRY \$ _____

I, Captain of the _____ Team entered in the SNF Handicap Tournament hereby certify that I and my entire team have read fully and understand completely and agree to abide by all the rules and regulations established by the SNF for the conduct of this event.

I further certify that all information contained in this entry form is correct, and recognize that any falsification of averages will result in team disqualification and forfeiture of all prize monies and entry fees.

Signed _____ Date _____

Team/Captain	Phone
Address	City State/Zip

Summer Golf in Review

by Adam Lazich, Golf Director

Congratulations to the wonderful people of Joliet for once again exhibiting why their summer tournaments are the best.

It all starts with hospitality and these people have it down.

Lets start with Co - Chairman Mike Lukich who secured a dozen Titleist golf balls for each golfer in their welcome bags.

To the committee for having the

hall opened every afternoon for the golfers and providing a buffet free of charge.

To the bartenders who were terrific all week and made sure there were plenty of limes.

To the volunteers who were at the courses collecting cards and making sure everything went smooth.

I have always said that the little things are what makes a tournament memorable and Joliet covered all the bases.

The Holiday Inn to the Church hall was 3 blocks away and the Holiday Inn to either course was 20 minutes. Those are the two key intangibles to making a golf participant very happy. Plus the courses

used for tournament play Carillon and The Sanctuary were in great shape and fun to play.

The hospitality at the hall from the kitchen crew to the bartenders were second to none.

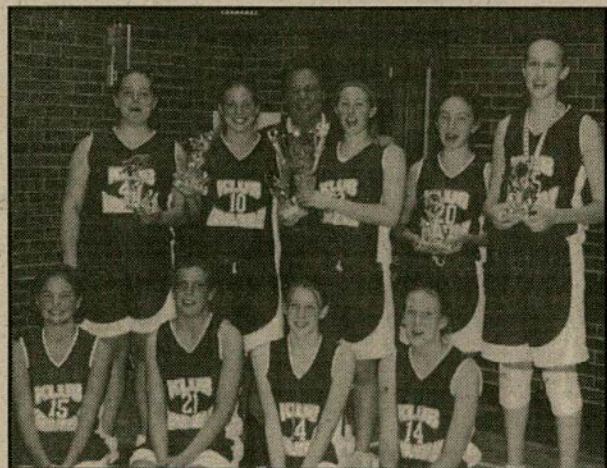
In closing I would like to thank Co Chairmen Dan Dorsey and Mike Lukich for putting together this wonderful week and it was a pleasure working with both of you.

Congratulations to the winners of their divisions along with Rande Somma for being the recipient of the Swats Saravich Sportsmanship Award.

St George should be very proud of them selves and I can't wait until you invite us all back again.

SPORTS

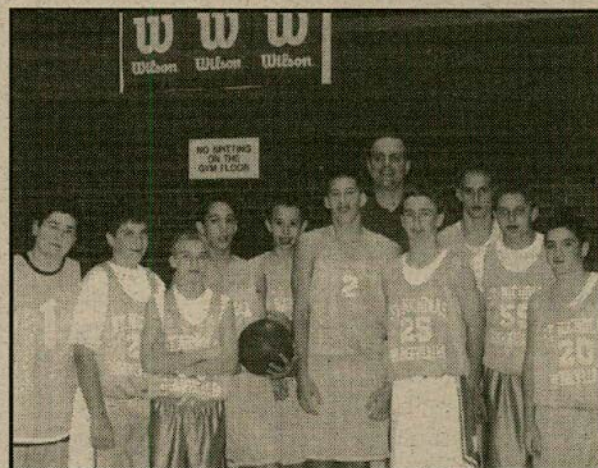
SNF Basketball Tournament 2002

JUNIOR GIRL CHAMPS

St. Nicholas Klub
Karageorge, Monroeville, PA

JUNIOR GIRL RUNNER UP

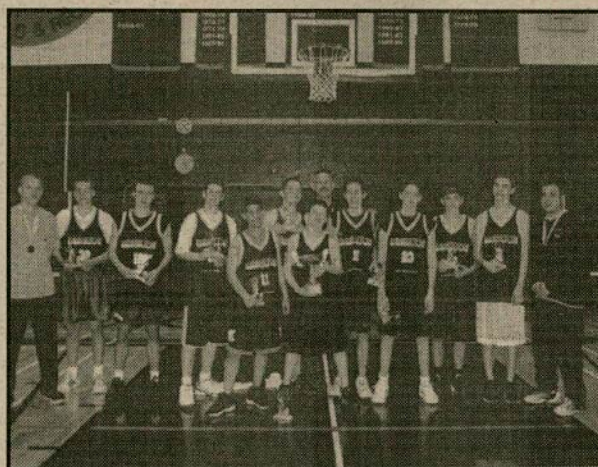
Kingmount Pharmacy #1
Hamilton Ontario

JUNIOR BOY CHAMPS

Duquesne/Monroeville
Junior Serbs

JUNIOR BOY RUNNER UP

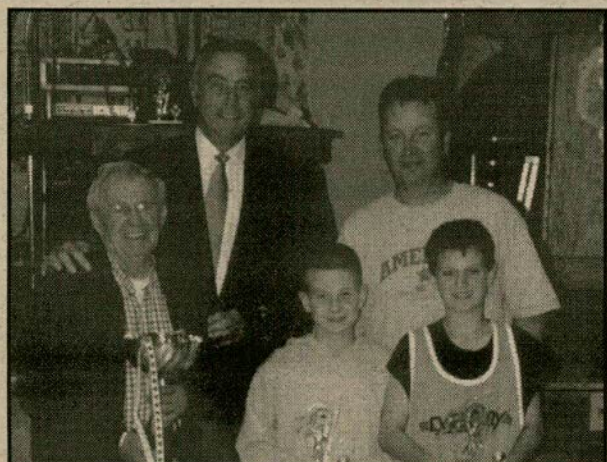
Massillon/Canton

JUNIOR BOY CONSOLATION CHAMPS

Mountain Lanes #1
Hamilton Ontario

PEE WEE CHAMPS

Fox 40 • Hamilton
Trophy Donor & Presenter Main Steel Joe Sormaz

PEE WEE RUNNER UP

Excelloy Little Dukes • Duquesne, PA
Trophy Donor: Investors Group, Dan Scepanovic
by Don Laketa

PEE WEE CONSOLATION CHAMPS

Stojak Trans. • Hamilton #8
Trophy Donor: Pizza Hut

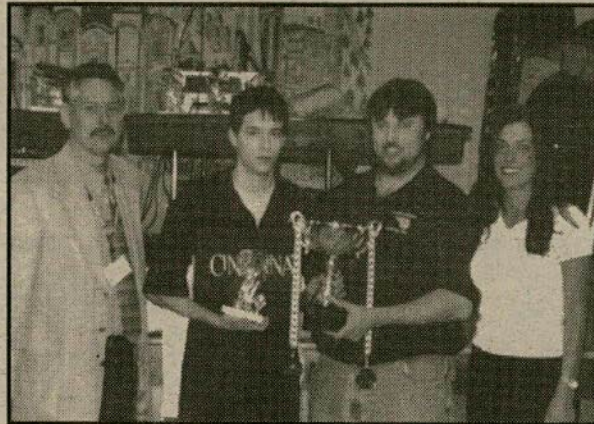
INTERMEDIATE BOYS CHAMPS

L.G. Wallace, Hamilton, Ontario
Trophy Donor: Velocity



INTERMEDIATE BOYS RUNNER UP

Cleveland Serbs



INTERMEDIATE BOYS RUNNER UP

Cleveland Serbs • Trophy Donor: Labatts



WOMEN'S CHAMPS

Windsor #2 • Trophy Donor: SNF and presented by SNF
2nd Vice President Steve Balach



WOMEN'S OLGA TOMICH AWARD
FOR SPORTSMANSHIP

Milena Dragicevic • Trophy Donor: S. Vukobratovich



WOMEN'S MVP

Gospova Kucic
Trophy Donor: L345 Srpska Kruna Windsor Ontario



WOMEN'S ONE GAME INDIVIDUAL HIGH SCORER

(Tie) Natasha Vudraga—Windsor & Marina Rusic—Hamilton
Trophy Donor: Nikola Mrmak Family



WOMEN'S INDIVIDUAL HIGH SCORER

Gospova Kucic • Trophy Donor: Nikola Mrmak Family



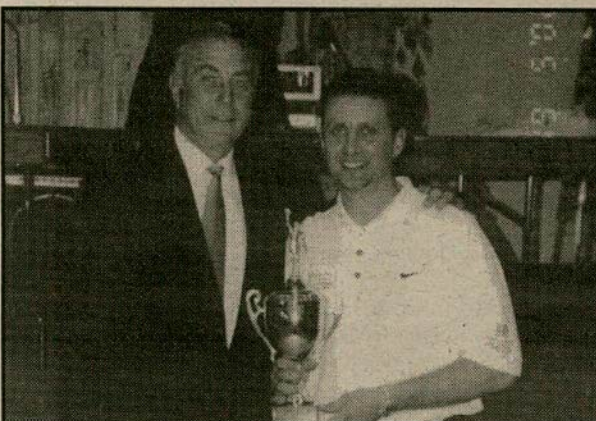
MEN'S CHAMPS

Serbian Eagles A.C., Lansing, IL • Trophy Donor:
SNF & presented by 2nd Vice President Steve Balach



MENS' RUNNER UP

Windsor Serbs • Trophy Donor: Can Armature Electric



MEN'S MVP SAM MILANOVICH AWARD

Mike Barach • Trophy Donor: Vida, Paul, & Daniela
Milanovich & Milana & Larry Milosh



MEN'S TOURNAMENT INDIVIDUAL HIGH SCORER
& ONE GAME HIGH SCORER

Mike Barach • Trophy Donor: Investors Group



INTERMEDIATE HIGH SCORER

Michael Radivoj—Cleveland • Inter. MVP—Dejan Grkovic,
Hamilton • Trophy Donor: Sobat Stone

SPORTS

SNF Basketball Tournament 2002



INTERMEDIATE ALL STARS

Alex Drobnjakovic - Alhambra, Jim Michaels - Lansing,
Brad Matta - Duquesne, Dejan Zecevic - Chicago Serbs,
Nick Pankerican - Hamilton #1, Rade Maravic -
Hamilton #1, Dejan Grkovic - Hamilton #1,
Nathan Pozderac - Cleveland, Michael Radivoj - Cleveland,
Milos Karadzic - Niagara Falls
Trophy Donor: Sobot Stone



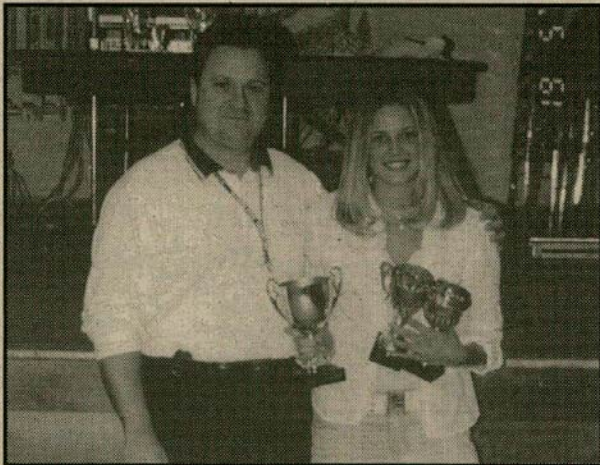
JUNIOR GIRLS ALL STARS

Bethany Winovich - Monroeville, Brittany Matta -
Monroeville, Angela Tassari - Monroeville,
Natalie Djurdjevic - Hamilton, Tanja Kablar - Hamilton,
Mila Milovic - Lansing, Milka Cucuz - Windsor, Bojana
Djogo - Cleveland, Milana Savatic - Chicago Stars,
Sandra Knezevic - Lansing
Trophy Donor: ADJ Insurance



MEN'S ALL STARS

Vojo Rusic - Hamilton Labatt's, Slobodan Trajkovic -
Hamilton Wallace, Milan Hayden - Pittsburgh,
Tim Trbovic - Massillon, Stevan Vrakela - Hamilton
Vladan, Milan Azanjac - Windsor Serbs, Jon Veljanovski -
Windsor Serbs, Mike Barach - Lansing Eagles, Chris
Simich - Lansing Eagles, Matt Chadash - Lansing Eagles
Trophy Donor: Investors Group

JUNIOR GIRLS ONE GAME INDIVIDUAL HIGH SCORER,
TOURNAMENT INDIVIDUAL HIGH SCORER, MVP

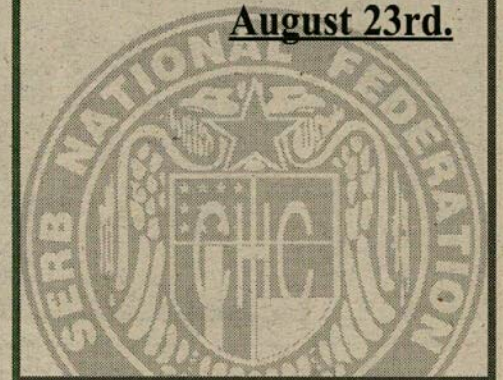
Bethany Winovich - Monroeville
Trophy Donor: ADJ Insurance

14TH ANNUAL STEVAN
MOKRANJAC CHOIR
GOLF TOURNAMENT

It's that time again when the members of the Stevan Mokranjac Choir prepare to host the premier golf outing for the Serbian community in the Golden Horseshoe area. Please consider our warm invitation to bring your friends, kumovi and relatives to join in our "veselje". This year we will play a "Best Ball Scramble" on Saturday, September 7 at Southbrook Golf and Country Club in Binbrook. A family style dinner will follow.

The Stevan Mokranjac Choir is looking forward to hosting all members and guests. Contact George Pejic for more details at (905) 543 0310 or (905) 548 7200 X 2892 or George Pejic @Dofasco.ca.

*The next issue of the
American Srbobran is
September 4th
Articles are due by
August 23rd.*

DIVAC COMBINES
TWO PASSIONS AT
BASKETBALL CAMP

by Stephen Huba, IOCC

SACRAMENTO, CA -- Combining his love for children with his passion for basketball, Sacramento Kings' center Vlade Divac lent a helping hand to 10 children at his annual summer basketball camp July 22-26.

Ten of the more than 300 young people who attended the week-long camp were able to participate thanks to scholarships from the Group 7 Children's Foundation that Divac helped found. The eight boys and two girls, ranging in age from 14 to 17, are residents of Trinity Children & Family Services in Sacramento, an Orthodox Christian residential treatment program for troubled youth.

Divac's love of children and concern for those who have been victimized extends beyond the basketball court and the two week-long sessions he's hosted for the third con-

secutive year. He and his wife, Ana, have two sons, as well as an adopted daughter from Belgrade, Yugoslavia.

Divac teamed up with International Orthodox Christian Charities (IOCC), the official humanitarian aid agency of Orthodox Christians, to offer the scholarships. The scholarships were distributed by IOCC's San Francisco Metropolitan Committee, a group that provides volunteer and fund-raising support to IOCC.

Steve Kreta, chairman of the San Francisco committee, said the scholarships give the Trinity young people an opportunity they otherwise wouldn't have. "Vlade likes to work with these young people," Kreta said. "This is a group that could really be encouraged by what Vlade has to say."

Through his Group 7 Children's Foundation, Divac also has worked to improve the lives of children in his home country of Yugoslavia. The foundation and IOCC have collaborated on several projects to help children in that war-torn country.

"We appreciate that Vlade has recognized the work of IOCC and the San Francisco committee," Kreta said. "We're glad to work with him as well."

During their stay at the basketball camp, the Trinity youngsters learned the fundamentals of basketball and competed individually and as teams. Divac was on hand

daily for clinics and motivational talks during the camp.

"It's such a wonderful opportunity for them to be in a camp of this caliber," said Julia Hackett, campus director of Trinity's Sacramento program. "Some of them have aspirations to go into professional sports, so Vlade is such a good role model for them."

In order to qualify for the scholarships, interested young people in the Trinity program had to write an essay about why they wanted to attend the camp. Twenty-four applicants were interviewed, and 10 were chosen, Ms. Hackett said.

"They really thought hard about what they wrote in their letters," she said. "We interviewed them about what they hoped to learn from the camp, the skills that would make them a better person." Ms. Hackett said programs such as Divac's camp teach not just basketball skills, but communication and social skills that are an integral part of the Trinity program.

In its third year, the basketball camp is a fund-raiser for the Divac's Group 7 Children's Foundation. Last year's camp raised more than \$70,000 for the foundation. Group 7 was founded by seven former members of the Yugoslavian national basketball team to help children living in post-war Yugoslavia.

69TH ANNUAL NJEGOSH SERBIAN DAYS

CLEVELAND, OHIO

AUGUST 30 - SEPTEMBER 1, 2002

in conjunction with the
54th Annual Golf Tournament
and
32nd Annual Hall of Fame Banquet

All events sponsored by
The Saint Sava Serbian Orthodox Cathedral of Cleveland, Ohio
6306 Broadview Road at Ridgewood Drive in Parma, Ohio

Program of Events

Friday, Aug 30

Admission Free
Golf Registration and
Welcome Social 7:00 PM
Music—Radost

Saturday, Aug 31

Golf-Seneca Golf Course,
Tee Times 7:30 AM
Hall of Fame Banquet
6:30 - 7:30 PM
Dance 8:00 - 12:00PM
Admission-Banquet & Dance \$20.00;
Dance Only \$5.00
Music—Radost

Sunday, Sept 1

Divine Liturgy 10:00AM -
St. Sava Cathedral
Requiem service for
Peter Petrovich Njegosh
Golf-Seneca Golf Course,
Tee Times 7:30 AM
Picnic-St. Sava Picnic Grounds,
12:00 - 11:00PM
2300 West Ridgewood Drive
Lamb-Pig-Cevapcici
Program-Picnic Grounds 3:00PM
Golf Awards & Drawings
Picnic Grounds 6:00 - 7:00PM
Admission to Picnic
and Dance: \$5.00

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You must make your own reservations.
Please state you are with St. Sava Cathedral
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Please list your foursome (if known):

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3. _____ 4. _____

The Reverend Zivojin Jakovljevic, Parish Priest
Petar Gmitric, Parish President
Mikhailo Patijarevich, Chairperson
Mary Lou Kuhar, Golf Chairperson

SPORTS

Pitt Basketball and the Serbs of the Area

By Kumovi Milan Markovich
and Milana K. Bizic

To hear son Nick tell it, you would have thought that Sveti Nikola's Day, American/Serbian Christmas had all been wrapped up into one day. He had spied his Kum Milan Markovich's name amongst a long article listing athletic greats who played basketball for the University of Pittsburgh in the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette.

"Did you know that Kum Milan scored the winning basket in a Pitt championship game? Listen to this!"

The article was promoting an event that was held on March 2, 20002 at 7:00 PM, when the Pitt Panthers would play their rivals, the West Virginia Mountaineers in a final game at Fitzgerald Field House. This special occasion generated a full weekend of activities for the Men's Basketball Alumni Reunion.

Walter Bielich, the Director of Pittsburgh's Varsity Letter Club, managed much of this program. The "Welcoming Dinner" was held March 1, at the Pittsburgh Athletic Association, directly across the street from Pitt's main building, the impressive, 41-stories tall, Cathedral of Learning.

One hundred thirty players from across the country attended, where Bill Hillgrove served as the Master of Ceremonies. Steve Pederson, the Athletic Director, welcomed the players. Walt Bielich provided an overview of Saturday's program and Coach Bill Howland talked about the team and his season.

Saturday morning found the players on a walking tour of the new Petersen Events Center. That evening, all the players sat together and at halftime they were individually introduced as they marched on the floor to line up in the decade that they played for Pitt. Milan Markovich describes it as "an electrifying event that brought back lots of great memories."

On Friday, prior to the dinner, Walter Bielich and George Topich (SNF Vice-President), decided to gather all those players of Serbian ancestry for a picture. (See photo).

From there, it was decided that the group should go a step further and conduct a review of all American Serbs who had played basketball at the University of Pittsburgh for historical purposes.

The following three sources were used to compile the information:

1. 2001-2002 University of Pittsburgh Men's Basketball Media Guide
2. Most Complete List Ever of Those Who Won Varsity Letters, by D. Russell Lindberg, President of Pitt's Varsity Letterman's Club, with Computer Assistance provided by Lauren Lindberg Patton and updated by Jim O'Brien and Theresa Varley. (Pitt 200th Anniversary 1986-87).
3. List of all Pitt Basketball Players provided by the Lettermen's Club for the 2002 Reunion.

1939-Daniel Vujnovic
1939-41 Sam Milanovich
1941-43 Steve Zernich
1943-44,46,47 Wally Zernich



Back Row: (Wally's friend-non Serb), Wally Zernich, brothers Nick and Brian Generalovich, Walt Bielich (Director of Pitt Varsity Letter Club), Steve Maslek and George Topich, of the SNF.

Seated: Milan Markovich, Steve Zernich, Mickey Zernich, and Tom Nikolich, Team Manager

Missing from photos is Brock Generalovich, Brian's son, who was also present at the affair.

1949 Michael Belich
1948-51 George Radosevich
1950-53 Michael Zernich
1956-57 Milan Markovich
1962-64 Brian Generalovich
1965 Nick Generalovich
1993 Brock Generalovich
2001 Zelimar Stevanovic

We feel the list above is incomplete and are looking for input from the SRBOBRAN's reading audience.

In one instance, in another book entitled HAIL TO PITT: A Sports History of the University of Pittsburgh, edited by Jim O'Brien and published 1982, it states on page 213: "Other basketball players of that period were Sammy David, Bill Baierl, Alex Medich, Bill Cieply, George Radosevich and Wally Zernich." Although Radosevich and Zernich were officially listed above, Alex Medich's name was left out. Upon contacting the SNF former basketball star and SRBOBRAN contributor from Duquesne, PA, I learned that Alex played from 1945 to 1947. Also missing from the official lists is Steve Maslek, from the Freedom, PA area, although he was present for the photo. I remember that when I went to Pitt, Eliot Maravich had a four year scholarship for basketball, although he broke his leg early in his career. We hope to correct these types of error omissions with our readers' help.

Interestingly enough, the next few paragraphs down from Medich's name, O'Brien states: "Sammy David set a season scoring record with 390 points in the 1948-49 season, but Mike Belich, a 5-7 guard, topped that in 1950 with 415 points!"

"Mickey Zernich was the captain of that club and its high scorer. He finished sec-

ond only to the great Charley Hyatt with a three-year total of 845 points."

No wonder why Mickey's name is among the first (1951-52) listed on the University of Pittsburgh's Varsity Walk, leading from the Cathedral of Learning to Heinz Chapel, where the Kir Stefan Girls Choir from Smederevo, Serbia, recently sang. The young ladies with me were very impressed as they spied George Radosevich (1950-51), George Medich (1969-70), Jan (Zernich) Ujevich (1982-83), Mike Kozlina (1989-90) and perhaps (???) Jamie Tomazich (1999-2000). We noted with pride the great percentage of Americans with Serbian heritage represented.

Over the years, many of these players participated in the SNF Basketball Tournaments. Sam Milanovich, while serving as the Athletic Administrator for the SNF, aided greatly in the development of not only the basketball program, but many other successful present day sports programs. Many of these players excelled in the SNF Basketball Tournaments, won championships and were selected to the tournament's All Star Teams. They have continued to make their University and the American Serbian people proud of their contributions to our Serbian communities and the United States.

Recently, the three Zernich Brothers received a great honor by being awarded this year's LEGEND Award by the California-Aliquippa Alumni Association at the Hotel San Remo in Las Vegas, Nevada. (The first two recipients were Mike Ditka and posthumously, Henry Mancini.) The Board of Directors and Friends of the B.F. Jones Memorial Library saluted the three doctors from

Aliquippa for "their individual and corporate contributions to their respective fields of medicine, enriching the lives of countless people. We honor them also for their dedication to the community of Aliquippa and especially to our Library. The doctors Zernich epitomize the characteristics that make all Aliquippians unique. We are proud to call them our native sons."

The U.S. Gypsum Company thanked Steve, Wallace and Michael Zernich "for touching our community with remarkable medical service and a legacy that is matchless."

Steve, the eldest of the three doctors, is noted for his life of constant challenge and competition. From the "Aliquippa Legend Award Booklet" we read: "His competitive spirit and talent earned him a position and scholarship as a freshman on the Pitt Varsity Basketball Team where his honors included Pitt Varsity Co-Captain, Air Force Basketball Championship Most Valuable Player Award, Letterman of Distinction-University of Pittsburgh, Most Valuable Player for the Far East Command, Serbian National Basketball Tournament Champion-Six Years." Steve also enjoys tennis, racquetball, and dancing tournaments. Few know of his literary and artistic talents as well. His book, DR. STEVE, is full of delightful insights into the early immigrant life of his parents in America. He recently gave the huge painting he made that graced the walls of his home for many years, of his patron saint, St. George, to a proud nephew.

Brothers Wally and Mickey also can claim the prestigious "Letterman of Distinction Award," which is a remarkable achievement. Each year, Pitt selects only four outstanding athletes from all sports areas every year (football, basketball, swimming, wrestling, hockey, soccer, etc.) To think that all three Zernichs won that award is incredible.

Dr. Wally delivered over 3,000 babies, including Tony Dorsett, Jr., football player with the Oakland Raiders and son of NFL football great, Tony Dorsett. Wally played basketball with the Aliquippa Serbs for over ten years, bringing home numerous national championships. He was selected to the National Serbian All Star team four times. Milan Markovich said he'd be forever grateful to Wally for taking care of his ailing father while he was stationed with the army in France. "It was through Wally's efforts that I received a notice from the Red Cross to come home to be with my father when he was dying. I'll never forget that."

Mickey is the third of the legendary brothers. His career skyrocketed in 1949 when he was co-captain of the undefeated Aliquippa Basketball team that won the Pennsylvania State title. He won an eight-year basketball scholarship to Pitt where he was All-American, VP and President of the Pitt Varsity Letterman's Club, and founder of the Pitt Varsity Walk. He was honored by being elected to the Beaver County Sports Hall of Fame and the Pennsylvania State Hall of Fame. He's won countless awards for his medical knowledge and outstanding citizenship skills while serving on the B.F. Jones Memorial Library Board. It's no wonder that Michael

Zernich received the "Aliquippa Outstanding Citizen Award." We're also proud of the fact that he starred in countless Serbian National Basketball Tournaments and was selected Most Valuable Player to the All-Star teams.

Dr. Brian Generalovich has also been a community leader. A SRBOBRAN article I wrote entitled "A Doctored-Up, All-Star Evening" on 9/16/88 advertising for the upcoming Serbian Business and Professional Association of America (SBPAA)'s "Salute to Health Professionals," says that while at Pitt, Generalovich was known in sports circles for both his tremendous athletic and academic abilities. He was an All-American, and an All-Academic Basketball Star. In the meantime, he also played in the starting line-up of Pitt's football team while a student at Pitt's Dental School!

The 1988 SRBOBRAN article stated that Generalovich was dispensing his community services to the Farrell-Hermitage-Shenango area freely. He was a member of the St. George S.E.O. Church Building Committee, and he worked with his father (who was serving one of his ten terms as Church President) to complete the Serbian Social Center.

In the meantime, Brian was a member of the Board of Directors of his local bank, and also the Buhl Boys Club. Too, he devoted much time and to the Pennsylvania Dental Association and to Pitt's Golden Panther Alumni Club then, which he still does, leading most of the activities now.

In the December 14, 1988 issue of the SRBOBRAN, a follow-up article recalls how SBPAA President George Topich introduced Brian as Master of Ceremonies. "Brian is well-known to the legion of fans who follow the SNF Basketball Tournaments. He was Most Valuable Player and on the All-Star team for numerous awards." The audience delighted in Brian's reminiscences of his flamboyant days at Pitt, and his close relationship with his uncle who checked on Brian and his roommate-brother, every night before going home from his work at Kaufmann's Department Store. He then turned the microphone over to Psychologist, Dr. Rose Gantner, who was an SNF Basketball star herself, winning the 1st place Girl's Basketball Trophy sponsored by the Serbian Singing Federation.

Rose's words in 1988 really could have summed up this article. "Serbians have their 4 C's," she said ("Šamo sloga Srbina Spasova"), but there are other C's that lead to happiness and wellness... we must be Caring and Concerned, Confident and Committed, Challenged and Creative, in Control, and the last C is for Choices. We must remember that unlike football, with its instant replay, time outs and substitutions, NOW is the best time of your life. Don't delay or procrastinate. Do it NOW because it is what you can control, and it's the best gift of your life. That's why it's called the PRESENT.

She selected the "P's" from the alphabet next. "Remember to Praise," she pleaded. "Unfortunately, most of us are quick to criticize and slow to praise, but it's the best prescription for a stress-free life. We all like praise and it's so easy to give and costs so little. Give yourself a Positive self talk, and have Pride in what you do. And don't forget the value of Play. The idea is to Work Smart and Play Hard because it rejuvenates your soul. The last "P" is for Prayer and Spirituality. When God is the center of your life, you can stress positive thoughts, positive feelings and let your creativity flow. Creativity then leads to Pleasant, Productive, and Positive Performance."

I think about Kum Milan Markovich and his untiring work with the ASERB organization. I recall the wonderful SRBOBRAN sports articles produced for years by Alex Medich. "They really took care of our Serbian people!" you hear about the Zernich doctors. The Milanovichs were fabulous in helping through education. My heart fills with pride as I read in my Pitt Alumni News about Brian Generalovich leading the fights in Harrisburg to secure more state monies for Pitt. All are totally unselfish and dedicated.

Our Serbian basketball players at Pitt were and still are, Caring and Concerned, Confident and Committed, Challenged and Creative both on the basketball court and in their various communities. They made the Choices to be Leaders in our Churches, Serbian organizations and our wider American communities. They worked smart and they played hard. They made us PROUD of them and Pitt University. "Hail to Pitt! Hail to Pitt, Every Loyal Son!"

And Every Loyal Daughter! Although not a Pitt graduate, Sam Milanovich's daughter, Milana Milosh was Program Chairperson for that 1988 SPBAA event and Co-Chairperson of last year's (1901-2001) great SNF Centennial Celebration. It must be in the genes! Ziveli, Srbi!

ORGANIZE AND RESPOND!

Help Block House Resolution 467: "Independence for Kosova" [sic, Kosovo]

WASHINGTON, DC - On Thursday, June 27, 2002, Representative Benjamin Gilman (R-NY) and Representative Tom Lantos (D-CA) introduced House Resolution 467, recommending that the House of Representatives should its declare support for the independence of Kosovo. Due to pressures exerted, voting has been postponed until after the summer recess, following Labor Day.

It falls upon the shoulders of the entire Serbian American community, together with other concerned individuals, to do whatever is necessary to block this resolution. The suffering of our brothers and sisters in Kosovo continues at an alarming rate as all traces of our beloved Orthodox Church, Serbian culture and heritage continue to be wiped out and the return of expelled Serbs is non-existent.

If the force of the US House of Representatives rallies behind this resolution, the goal of keeping Kosovo in its rightful place within Serbia will become increasingly difficult. WE MUST RESPOND TOGETHER AND NOW!

What Can We Do?

Urge your family members, friends, and any others willing to assist and urge them to contact their representative on this matter.

Call or fax your representative—in a responsible manner—and urge him/her to not consider this resolution as complimentary to the promotion of stability in Southeast Europe.

To contact your representative, dial (202) 225-3121 and ask for your representative, or call their home offices.

Phone Script:

(When calling, make sure to ask for the staff member responsible for foreign affairs and explain that you are a concerned constituent. If that member is not available, please leave a written or a voice-mail message.)

Hello, my name is _____.

I am calling to voice my objection to House Resolution 467 as proposed by Rep. Benjamin Gilman and Rep. Tom Lantos, calling for support of Independence for Kosovo.

Today, under the Albanian majority, dwindling Serbian and other non-Albanian populations in Kosovo live in fear; churches, monasteries, and cultural monuments continue to be systematically destroyed; and the return of expellees to their homes in Kosovo is virtually non-existent. Granting independence to Kosovo will only serve to further fragment an already unstable region by promoting the known cause of international terrorism, which also threatens our own homeland security.

As your constituent, I ask you to please defeat this initiative and preserve Kosovo as a multicultural province within Serbia.

I thank you in advance for your concern.

Members of the House Committee on International Relations

Henry J. Hyde, Chairman
Illinois, 6th District
Benjamin A. Gilman
New York, 20th District
Tom Lantos
California, 12th District
James A. Leach
Iowa, 1st District
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- 2004 BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

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December 31, 2002

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One Fifth Ave., 7th Floor

Pittsburgh, PA 15222

SPORTS

Milosh in field at U.S. Junior Championship

By Eric Hall, Times Sports Staff
Reprinted from The Times/Beaver Newspapers, Inc., Pennsylvania
07/21/2002

It's the U.S. Open for girls, and Center Township's Samantha Milosh will be there.

Milosh, 16 and a junior-to-be at Center High School, will compete in the U.S. Junior Girls Championship, sanctioned by the United States Golf Association, the same governing body which sponsors the U.S. Open, Senior Open, and Women's Open.

"It's a pretty big deal," said Samantha's dad, Larry, who is also the girls golf coach at Center.

Milosh and 149 other female golfers age 17 and under will play 18-hole rounds on Monday and Tuesday in medal play format. The top 64 scores advance to the match play round, which runs from Wednesday to Friday.

The event is held at Echo Lake Country Club in Westfield, N.J.

Milosh qualified for the tournament after shooting a 4-over par 76 at a USGA Regional Qualifier at Ohio Prestwick Country Club in Uniontown, Ohio, near Canton, on June 26. She tied for third in the event, which featured 40 players from Pennsylvania, Ohio and West Virginia.

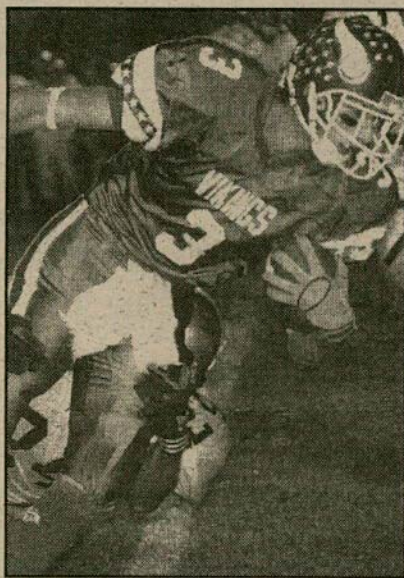
This week marks the first foray for Milosh into the national tournament scene. Her father believes that winning the event the first time playing it would be a daunting task for any golfer, much less a 16-year-old. But he's upbeat when it comes to his daughter's chances.

"I'll be very happy if she reaches the match play round. That would be great for the first time out," he said. "I'm already happy with her. This is a big accomplishment."

As a sophomore, Samantha Milosh qualified for the Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association girls tournament last fall.

©Beaver County Times/Allegheny Times 2002

Note -- Samantha Milosh is a lifelong member of the Serb National Federation which is a Milosh family tradition. She comes from a line of good golfers, too as her father Larry won the SNF Golf Tournament seven times. Samantha is a member of one of the tammie groups that performed at Kennywood Park during the 3-Pitt-Serb-Days celebration last month, and as a result missed the first day of the practice round for the USGA tournament. Golf is important, but so is the SNF and our music! -- Ed.



SERB TO GO IRISH?

VALPARAISO, IN — After football practice on August 12, Valparaiso High School's wide receiver Jeff Samardzija is expected to announce he will select Notre Dame as his college choice.

Reportedly the Irish offered Samardzija a scholarship in late June. Although his final selection has been a guarded secret, news media and Internet sources are saying it is a "done deal." The delay in making a public announcement is centered around Jeff's brother Sam who is presently attending a summer internship

in California. Sam is a former All-Area player as well. Jeff wants his brother to be present at the press conference. "There's no reason why I shouldn't just wait, because he wants to see it."

Other offers on the Samardzija table are from Northwestern, Indiana and Purdue universities. Jeff has been widely considered one of the top prospects in the entire Midwest.

Despite the noisemaking about Notre Dame, Samardzija maintains that his choice is a family decision to be announced by the family on August 12 and until then "nothing is official."

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