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Deep cuts could end services

Student organizations face financial meltdown:
ASUWT and The Ledger among hardest hit

by Marques Hunter

The numbers didn’t add up when the Student Activities Fund Committee (SAFC) finished a ten-hour budget proposal meeting April 2 for the 2004-05 annual budget allocations. The Associated Students for the University of Washington, Tacoma (ASUWT) and The Ledger received massive budget cuts that will have an impact on the future successes of these two organizations.

The Career Services Center’s (CSC) budget allocation for next year should decrease approximately $5,000, compared to their current annual budget.

If Internal Chancellor Steve Olswang recommends the proposed 2004-05 budget to the Board of Regents on April 16, ASUWT’s budget next year will be cut in half and The Ledger’s budget will be cut by nearly two-thirds. Both organizations received over $110,000 this year in budget allocations. Next year it could drop below $45,000 for both organizations.

The CSC’s budget and the Events and Sports budget took the littlest shot from the SAFC’s budget crunch. ASUWT President Mark Dodson serves as an Ex-officio member of the SAFC, which means he is a non-voting student government member. Dodson said the SAFC was regrettably forced to rank the Career Services Center as a higher asset than other student organizations.

"While I was sitting at the meeting, the SAFC tried to gauge what students need more," Dodson said. "The committee felt the CSC has more of a need on campus." A large group of people showed up at the budget proposal meeting to advocate proper funding of the CSC. With that help, the CSC could potentially have a larger budget that almost doubles ASUWT and The Ledger's budget's combined.

"Their (SAFC) argument is that if a student really wants to serve on student government, then money’s not going to be a factor," Dodson said. "Or if they really want to work for the student newspaper, than money’s not going to be a factor. I would argue against that especially on a massively low-income campus."

From left to right: Carmela Amador, Marques Hunter, Meg Smith and Marlene Hanson.

Dodson said that given the circumstances the SAFC was in, the committee did admit about as good of a job with what they had.

"We will feel the impact more this upcoming year instead of feeling it really bad the year after," Dodson said. The budget committee for student organizations is a financial blow that could affect the sustainability of key student organizations that are essential to any university. Added to this equation is the fact that S&A fees will increase this summer.

This year, every full-time student pays $97 dollars per quarter to the Student and Activities (S&A) fee. Effective this summer, S&A fee will increase three dollars. 15 percent of next year’s collected S&A fees will go toward the S&A long-term development account (a type of savings account).

To explain the proposed cuts, 15 percent of the S&A fees will go into the S&A long-term development account. The student government did not add to this account last year. Consequently, SAFC was forced to make budget cuts and strengthen the long-term development account that was depleted largely due to the cost of the Student Center and other amenities.

Still, many questions are left unanswered as to why the CSC was given a realistic budget, whereas ASUWT and The Ledger, two active and arguably necessary student organizations, are left to sink or swim.

Silencing the campus voice

by Meg Smith

Every campus has them—a student government, student organizations and a newspaper. Current budget cuts threaten to change that for this campus.

Recently, each of these groups brought their budgets before the Student Activities Fund Committee (SAFC) and asked for funding from student fees. The SAFC deliberated for many hours and then cut the budgets for various organizations. The Ledger’s cuts were so severe that they threaten the very existence of the newspaper.

This year there were more requests for funding than there were funds available and SAFC had to make cuts to existing budgets. Student government and The Ledger both were decreased by more than 50 percent. Other budgets had minimal cuts, such as the career center with a decrease of around $5,000 from their $90,000 budget this year. The Ledger had operated without an increase for the last two years and was asking for additional funding to update equipment and provide staff additional training. The budget was cut from around $33,000 for this year to around $21,000 for next year.

The Ledger, an award winning and nationally recognized publication, is the voice of the student body. It provides a forum for students to voice their ideas and opinions.

This paper provides a historical background to the campus. It dates back to 1993 when a group of students joined together to create the first UWT newspaper, The Independent. These first few issues of The Independent were sporadic due to inconsistent funding. There were no established publication dates, no budget and no manager. The paper came together at the expense of the student’s grade point averages and families. They felt strongly about having a student voice on campus.

See Budget page 4
Hidalgo, great race for survival

by Penney White

Hang up the spurs and sit back for an epic action-adventure about an amazing race and a battle for redemption.

Director Joe Johnston generally draws toward movies that have some fantasy to them. It's a good movie to see even if viewers do not go for the horse tale. The movie leaves questions about political innuendos regarding Native Americans and some fantasy to them about an amazing race and a battle for survival, honor, and newfound manhood from being removed. To make things more difficult, Jazira is a little troublemaker, sneaking into tents where she does not belong. At this point, the movie segways into Hopkins' manhood from being removed. To make things more difficult, Jazira is a little troublemaker, sneaking into tents where she does not belong. At this point, the movie segways into Hopkins saving the day with his six-shooter and the princess's bodyguard as a partner. He races across rooftops, pulling an Indiana Jones feel.

This movie is rated PG-13 for adventure violence and some mild sexual innuendos.

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April 8, 2004

Budget: cutting the budget means cutting student voices
continued from front page

Now that voice is threatened by budget constraints. The key to The Ledger’s budget are not just cuts to equipment or printing costs, but do away with the publication manager position, and cut into office expenses, staff pay and training.

In other words, the cuts are so deep they move the paper back to 1993 when it looked more like a student newsletter than a newspaper and could not consistently keep a staff or a publication date. Does it mean to have a university without a student newspaper?

Our founding fathers knew the importance of newspapers in representing the people and acting as a watchdog over the government. Samuel Adams, a radical journalist, roused the people by using the colonial press to repeal the Stamp Act, which eventually was repealed. Adams’ response to this success bore the signs of modern journalism: “But your press has wounded the alarm. Your press has spoken to us the words of truth. It has pointed to this people their danger and their remedy. It has set before them liberty and slavery.”

The Ledger needs the voices of the students, staff and faculty on this campus to come together and defend the need for this publication. It is more than a place where students get experience in writing, editing, photography, team work, publication and deadlines. It is a part of the foundation our founding fathers laid for us.

“The First Amendment gives the press the right to publish news, information and opinions without government interference. This also means people have the right to publish their own newspapers, newsletters, magazines, etc,” from Illinois Press Association Guide to First Amendment & Access Laws (1995).

Please write or call the SAFC chair, Sarah Myers and let her know that it is important to have a student voice on campus. Myers can be reached at smyers@u.washington.edu or at 692-4685 (leave a message).

This is a time of sacrifice and organizations on campus have to be willing to accept cuts, but not the kind of cuts that eliminate an established program. These funds come from student pockets and SAFC needs your input about how to best spend your dollars.

Meg Smith is the publication manager and was the first editor of the newspaper when it was established in 1993. Smith is a journalism instructor at Pierce College and a former weekly newspaper editor and reporter.

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Trade exchanges are necessary to ensure peaceful American and Russian relations via profits, trust made by way of successful shipments, and the globalization of essential goods.

By creating a global market through business relationships, both America and Russia succeed in exchange of peace and profits.

R u s s i a n steamship lines do business with American ports to export natural resources and import a variety of American consumer goods in break bulk containers.

Transactions such as these call for commitment and trust. Far Eastern Shipping Company, FESCO, has found such trade with the Port of Tacoma in Tacoma, WA.

"We take good care of FESCO here," says Susan Beckland, director of Trade Services at the Port of Tacoma. "It results in a strong relationship and trust."

Since 1976 in its relationship with the U.S. has been off and on until politics stopped using trade as a contingency of peace. In 1980, an embargo blocking Russian trade to the U.S. became the result of the Russian invasion of Afghanistan. Trade relations were then at a stand still until 1995 when Russia and the U.S. made the decision to value trade and profit over as that had been brought about by an invasion that was long overdue.

"The SA-15 ice cutters come into our waterway bringing aluminum from Russia," Beckland says. The aluminum that Russia ships across the Arctic is taken from the Port of Tacoma for processing in Olympia, WA. To maintain good trade relations with Russia, a representative from the Port of Tacoma is stationed in Vladivostok.

President Putin made this because oil investments at Sakhalin Island brought enough capital to make trade relations consistent.

Last year FESCO brought just under $1 million to the $72 million imported to the city of Tacoma.

FESCO is a 124-year-old steamship line that helped set the globalization foundation. Now the company trades with some of the world’s best ports.

"The SA-15 ice cutters come into our waterway bringing aluminum from Russia," says Beckland. The aluminum that Russia ships across the Arctic is taken from the Port of Tacoma for processing in Olympia, WA.

To maintain good trade relations with Russia, a representative from the Port of Tacoma is stationed in Vladivostok.

"The transnational relationship also creates jobs in both Russian and America," says Beckland. In trading with the U.S. ports, FESCO is affected by unionization and labor costs. The union it works with is the ILWU, International Longshore Worker’s Union.

Trade between the U.S. and Russia stimulates profits, resulting in jobs for these workers and Russian longshoreman at FESCO’s headquarters in Vladivostok.

Trade between FESCO and the Port of Tacoma results in peace from jobs, profits, and economic gain.

Many people ignored their civic duty by not visiting the election district because the result was predetermined. Only about 64 percent of eligible voters turned out, according to official statistics. About 6 percent of voters chose the candidate against all because there were no real opponents against Putin.

"I want to assure you and promise that, in the next four years, I will work just as hard, do everything in my power to have the entire government work just as intensively," Putin told reporters. This is a key quote that explains the whole course of the next four years. What did he mean? Is it the enforcement of the law or the improvement of all democratic institutions? Only time will tell.
National character blends with stereotypes

The World according to America

- Russia: COLD Santa Claus lives here
- USA: Theme parks go to see the Queen
- Canada: Our friendly but backwards neighbours
- UK: McDonald's Everybody loves them
- Mexico: Commissars are our enemies they must be destroyed
- Iraq: Humans are holy
- Yemen: They want to destroy our great democracy with fire, water, cigars.
- Japan: They have specific cookery drinks beer using the fly as an ingredient.
- China: The Chinese (they have specific cookery) drinks beer using the fly as an ingredient.
- Russia: The Russian (they have specific cookery) drinks beer using the fly as an ingredient.

Russian language under attack

During the last twenty years, many words from other languages, especially American English's language, have filled Russian media. Specifically, many worry about how this process may change the entire Russian language.

It was debated some time ago that it is necessary to transfer all American words into Russian language. So, it was necessary to write "taxonomy ovatal" instead of "bullsh*t"; game of soccer teams name "a meeting" but not "a match"; "story" instead of "report." Even the "camembert" cheese at this time has been renamed into cheese "camenbecke.

Today, almost no one can argue with the fact that American words are really necessary in an everyday life in Russia. Modern, political, economic and cultural conditions have forced usage of these words. The words began to fall outside the limits of the professional environment and to be used in press, radio, telecast, as well as in public speech of politicians and businessmen.

The attitude to Americanisms

The Council of Russian has recently proposed a bill concerning the status of the "great and naughty Russian language." This bill includes sanctions for the misuse of the native language in mass media. Clearly, the Council understands that the tv anchor during a live telecast may use some of the non-native language. Even in reading prepared text, it is still possible to occasionally make a mistake. However, this bill to some degree may be unnecessary, as Russian media may find themselves needing to self-monitor due to public opinion.

Complaints of mass-media from audience members become more apparent and are frequently justified. Their major complaint is that these Americanisms cut an ear. They complain that there is a glib of Americanisms, an abundance of slang, and even abusive, lexicon.

The best criteria for adding an American word to the language may be the overall usefulness of that particular word. For example, technological advancements in the world bring with them their own terminology. These terms cannot be separated from the technology itself. Today, an actual word such as "internet" is impossible to separate from the realities of a modern life. Or, for example, the American term "online" is a hard word to match in the Russian language.

On the other hand, if there is a Russian word that can be used effectively, then that is the word that should be used. Using someone's words, certainly allows journalists to appear clever, but frequently this use of Americanisms by Russian journalists is not justified.

So what would be the best way for Russia to deal with the problem of Americanisms? Perhaps, the French could offer a solution.

In France, a struggle against words from other languages has waged for a long time. After lengthy and thoughtful debate, the French have developed a penalty system for language. For example, for the use of a non-native word in an official transfer or document, the author will be fined up to 10,000 francs given the condition that in the French language, there is an equivalent of this word. In France, Americanisms are not forbidden, but this system is done to keep the usage down to a minimum. Of course, it is impossible to reach absolute success, but the steps taken by the French are worth respect.

Three proofs that Jesus was Jewish:
1. He went into his father's business.
2. He lived at home until the age of 33.
3. He was sure that his mother was a virgin, and his mother was sure that he was God.

Three proofs that Jesus was Irish:
1. He never got married.
2. He never had a steady job.
3. His last request was an alcoholic drink.

Three proofs that Jesus was Italian:
1. He talked with his hands.
2. He drank wine with every meal.
3. He worked in the building trade.

Three proofs that Jesus was Puerto Rican:
1. His first name was Jesus.
2. He was always in trouble with the law.
3. His mother didn't know who his real father was.

Three proofs that Jesus was from Calabria:
1. He never cut his hair.
2. He walked around barefoot.
3. He invented a new religion.

These stereotypes may not seem bad or insulting at first. Sometimes they are more truthful than complicated scientific theories that national character may predict. Stereotypes are perceived as real traits of different nations, although these traits are often exaggerated.

So we shouldn't react seriously to international news. We should observe our own experiences of national character but not pay attention to the whole thing.

Russian media criticizes Putin's reelection

Anna Politkovskaya is an independent observer from "Novaya Gazeta" and says to "Le Temps," "there is no sense in the elections because one man dominates the authorities. Vladimir Putin, who is backed by the presidential administration and immovable security services, has the advantage now. Putin has turned us back to the neo-soviet regime."

Garry Kasparov, the co-chairman of the "Committee-2008," says to "The Sunday Telegraph" that "Putin is doing his best to terminate the democratic institutions in Russia. The passive positions of the western countries are clear: to protest the liberal ideas. This will just help them."

"The Times" reported that all candidates did have some access to the media but all the mass media was directly or indirectly controlled by Putin's friends. As a result, the candidates didn't have an opportunity to challenge Putin in equal conditions.

"The Toronto Star" reports that local authorities succeeded in spoiling the campaign for other candidates. "Business Week" reports our 2004 election process is a strict reminder of the soviet methods.

The McDonald's (shown in front of Russian historic architecture) are examples of Americanisms filig Russian media.
Russians say that a man has to plant a tree, build a house and bring up a son. In reality, he has to find a good wife, bring up children, be a good husband and to be a good father as well. In addition, he must help his parents and do many other things. This is a lot, but maybe not so much over the course of his lifetime. On the other hand, a woman finds herself speeding through life. A Russian lifetime gives her little time to get an education and have her children before her biological clock expires. Don't forget she also needs to find a pretty good guy. These time crunches give people little time to make the right decision.

Dasha Osina

By the time Stuart Loory, an American, met Nina Kudriavtseva, a Russian, he had become an experienced journalist and his children had grown up. Nina Kudriavtseva finished her career as a dancer at the Bolshoi Theatre and became the artistic director of the international ballet program while bringing up a son.

It was in the summer of 1993. I had come to Russia to work for the New York Herald Tribune in Moscow. It was the beginning of an immersion into Russian culture and society. By the 1990s, after living in Moscow for so many years, I had come to propose to Nina Nikolaevna. I talked about the difficulties of intercultural marriage and large family.

Nina makes the first move

How did you meet?

Well, it's an interesting story. Of course, we were both here at the time. In the early 1990s, I was working for Ted Turner (founder of CNN) and when he came to Russia, he had to make all of his arrangements for his trip, to make sure that his schedule is properly filled. He was coming on a trip to Russia in 1993, I had one evening open when nothing had been planned.

I called a friend of mine, who was also my Russian teacher. She also worked with CNN. I told her what was going on and she suggested she come to the Bolshoi. I said, good, we'll take Ted and Jane Fonda to "Fasst" and I hung up. I was in the United States at that time, at that and then all of the sudden I thought, shouldn't we? We get the Tsars' Box.

So, I called my friend back and said Linda... She's going to try us to get the Tsars' Box.

She told me, she called and told me that they were going to give us a box. We booked the box. The box that seats 24 people. They were mostly Russians (Ted at that time was interested in studying the language, which was a big sport at that time). We invited the head of the Olympic committee and his deputies, people from Parliament and government officials.

There is a big oval shaped room behind the box, and you can have a little reception in there. So, during the intermission we served champagne and caviar for 24 people. The Bolshoi sent representatives to the reception. And that's when Nina Nikolaevna and I met.

That is how you got acquainted. So you talked a little bit...

"We talked a little bit and the next day she wanted to talk to Ted and Jane, because the Bolshoi had been closed for renovation (repair)."

The Bolshoi was thinking about moving the entire company to some place else in the world to be able to hold the company together. They were afraid that if they just closed the theatre, all the dancers, the workers and the singers would just disappear.

Did you go to the Bolshoi theatre because your friend gave you the advice to get? Had you been to the Bolshoi before? Or was it your first time at that theatre?

"We started the Bolshoi Theatre in 1964—long before I know Nina. When I went to the Bolshoi previously, people like Maya Plisetskaya were dancing. I saw ballet in many dances many times. Yuri Grigorovich is now married to Natasha Bessmertnova and in the 1960s she in Moscow was a star at the Bolshoi. So, I now know her as the wife of Grigorovich, who is a friend of Nina and a friend of mine as well. And his wife is a dancer and I went to see dancing at the time is my friend as well."

Was Nikolaevskaya dancing when you saw her?

"No. She stopped dancing in the early 1980s. She became an executive. Her title was director of republic which means that she was responsible for scheduling all the times at the theatre. She scheduled the operas, the ballets, and how each season was performed. Just about everything at the theatre had to be arranged by her."

Was she dancing in the corps de ballet when you first met her?

"She was in the chorus line. It meant she was not a principle ballerina."

But did you ever see her dancing?

"I never saw her dancing!"

How did you start your acquaintance?

"She arranged the meeting with Ted Turner and Jane Fonda the next day. So she came to the hotel for the last time and was waiting for Ted and Jane. After that, we talked and she invited me a few weeks later to her birthday party. We went to her birthday party at her mother's house."

Welcome to the USA

Did she get married in Russia or in the USA?

"We did not get married until 1995. We were going to get married in Russia in 1994. It was my idea. The Bolshoi was going to be in the Orthodox Church and the other wedding was going to be in the Jewish synagogue. We thought we would not get married in the synagogue because she is not Jewish. It turned out that we could not get married in the Church, but we did get married in the synagogue. So, we were married in the United States."

Dina did she have any problems coming to the USA?

"She had been to the United States many times before she had danced in the U.S. with the Bolshoi. (There were no problems coming to the United States, but it is an interesting fact that after the marriage Loory and Nikolaevskaya moved to a little town in Missouri. The choice ofLite Nina was in 1993."

Loory studied a lot about Russian culture. She did you have any problems with the language?

"No. She speaks English and she is also fluent in French. Her mother's translating translated into what we call a collective marriage. The husband is the president. The president of the Bolshoi was named after him. The prize is now in 12th or 13th year. She is the artistic director of the program. The International Dance Association founded the prize. The president of the prize is Yuri Grigorovich. The general director is a friend of Nina by the way is first of Russia. Nina and Nikolaevskaya is a friend.

Nina and Nina's son to translate. So, people who translate together, live together. Nina has translated books from Russian into French and into Russian. Her son Leonid has also done some translating from English into Russian."

When did you have kids?

"No. He is 43 and he lives here in Moscow."

Do your children know something about Russia and Russian culture?

"My children lived here when they were very young. When we came the first time, our children were very young and we lived together. My son went to kindly and I went together. One of my sons went to a pioneer camp, so they know a little bit about Russia."

Do you have a cultural balance in your family or does one culture dominate?

"I think we have a good balance."

What Russian cooking do you like?

"Generally I like food. I like everything that Nina cooks that's really a full-time job for me."

Does she have any special dishes? An American or a Russian one?

"No, I don't think so. Generally she really likes cooking. I do a lot of cooking also."

A successful woman with a computer and a telephone

What does she do now?

"Well, she left the Bolshoi and moved to the U.S. in 1997. There is a program here in Moscow. It is called the Benois de la Danse. It is an international prize. She had been a Russian, but she had a French name. He lived in St. Petersburg. He was a stage designer at Mariinski opera and ballet. The prize was named after him. The prize is now in 12th or 13th year. She is the artistic director of the program. The International Dance Association. We were married in 1994."

Nina Nikolaevna visited United States many times for her work and she still had this work for the Bolshoi Theatre. Before she came to the US, she worked five years in this program. With a computer and tele­

phone, you can work anywhere now."

By the time Stuart Loory and Nina Nikolaevna met each other they both were very close to the opposite culture. Professor Loory, who had been living in the USSR before, was half-Russian.

Nina Nikolaevskaya visited United States many times for her work and her life always have been interesting. Stuart Loory worked for the newspaper, in which Karl Marks a well-known economist and philosopher had worked, and also worked with Ted Turner, a founder of CNN.

Nina Nikolaevskaya is a friend of Yuri Grigorovich, the choreographer of the Bolshoi theatre, and Natasha Bessmertnova, a ballerina who danced the main role in the performance "Sparks" and who is a wife of Grigorovich. Professor Loory and Nina Kudriavtseva are a very interesting couple, who are surrounded by an artistic atmosphere.
Russian student unites with American culture

Rafael Saakov

“America - complicated, paradoxical, bullheaded, shy, cru­de, boisterous, unspeakably dear, and very beautiful.”

These words belong to one of America’s greatest writers of the XX cen­tury John Steinbeck.

I would add to his statement that America is a populated country with friendly people. I know this because in the fall of last year I had the pleasure of traveling to America and working with many Americans in Tacoma, Washington.

In this article, I want to sum up all of the details of the period I stayed in Tacoma (I was writing something like a diary) and to show how many people helped us to make our trip interesting and unforgettable.

Myself and three others from MSU left Moscow early Monday morning on November 17 and arrived at Sea-Tac air­port (called so because of the location between Seattle and Tacoma - two of the biggest cities in Washington state) on the same Monday morning. The rea­son is the time zone, so we were flying back into the past.

In the airport Bill Richardson and Chris Demase - known for us from their Moscow visit in March 2003 - met us and took us to the University of Washington, Tacoma to meet Vicky Carwina, UW Chancellor. We didn’t speak a lot because we were tired from the flight, but we really enjoyed the con­versation.

Then, while we were waiting for our host families, Bill took us on a trip around the University.

The glass sculpture created by Seattle’s artist Dale Chihuly in the Mary Durkin Commons is a truly beautiful work of art. It was later seen in the Tacoma Museum of Glass, where we saw lots of other Chihuly art exhibits.

Soon, I met my American hostess - Natasha from Chabarovsk. On our way to her home, we spoke a lot about both Russia and America.

She has lived in Tacoma with her husband Sandy and son Sasha for more than ten years. Almost every day I woke up at 6:30 a.m. (in Moscow it is unreal for me) and would go to play tennis with Sandy.

Even though he always won, it was really cool because in Moscow I have no time to play my favorite game. A very professional player, Sandy cultivates sports to his son - Sasha swims, studies karate and, of course, plays tennis.

The next day there was a welcome party organized by the Associated Students of the University of Washington, Tacoma (the campus stu­dent government). It was at this party that we met everybody who was going to work on the joint newspaper project - Marques, Josh, Alex, Carmela, Deb, Meg, Monique and others.

In my mind, we became friends right when we met first. A very big and superb surprise for us was seeing Tolena and Karl, our friends/colleagues from the first meeting in Moscow. They had gradu­ated in the summer and have been working since that time, but came to campus especially to see us.

After the welcome party, we visited the program of the Japanese Day, but we couldn’t stay there for a long time because of the pre-Thanksgiving Day party. Monique, the then News Editor of the Ledger, cooked Thanksgiving dinner for us because we were visiting just one week before.

American’s celebrate their annual Thanksgiving holiday. It was something unbelievable - I ate so many tasty things including turkey, of course, that I couldn’t even hold my camera. (My camera would irritate everyone by the end of our journey).

The next day we were invited to Professor Dave Secord’s house for an Indian dinner. The dinner with Alaskan Bear was excellent. As you see, I ate a lot in America. So, it didn’t play tennis every day with Sandy, my parents and friends wouldn’t recognize me when I came home.

Dave and his wife Amy are a very nice couple. They are such interesting interlocutors that we spoke till late evening, until Marques and Alex came and we drove to the Regal Cinema the­aters.

We saw the movie Kill Bill. Volume one and laughed a lot. It was so funny to see how Uma Thurman beats so many people with such cruelty that we could­n’t come round for a long time after the film ended.

On Thursday, our American hosts planned a visit to the main newspaper of Tacoma - The Tacoma News Tribune.

We took part in the editorial planning meeting and then talked with editor-in­chief David Zeeck and his executive edi­tors. We learned a lot about the American publishing model.

The first thing we learned is that nei­ther the paper, nor the correspondents, are dependent on government approval. And, of course, we were surprised by the huge territory which the newspaper covers - its even bigger than the terri­tory of many Moscow capital newspa­pers.

Then, I went with Marques to his work - he works with children who love him very much.

He shows them their favorite films and plays different games with them. Marques also likes his work, possibly just as much as he likes basketball. I have dreamt of attending an NBA match and Marques answered my wish by tak­ing me to a Seattle Sonics game.

On my next trip to Seattle and Tacoma, I want to visit the space needle and, of course, I want to go out to some American nightclubs (I could not enter the clubs because American drinking age limit is 21 years old and I am only 20).

You know, I saw the USA in the way I was supposed to see the coun­try. I have wanted to visit America ever since childhood and I learned a lot about the country long before I got the chance to visit it. That’s why I think I wasn’t surprised when I got there.

But, I can single out two things that very much surprised me: 1) that lots of students attend classes and 2) that every student drives a car.

It’s now interesting to see how many differences will Marques and Carmela, who came to Moscow to make this issue, find out in Russian culture and Ukrainian journalism.

Maybe I forgot to cover some facts in this article, but I will never forget the honour all of our American friends have done to us. I want to offer a special thank you to the people who were with us all of those days. You made every one of our wishes come true and we are very thankful to you!

And, finally, lots of thanks and hugs to everyone who is reading this article now.

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Journalist/ Ledger

8
Russia fights terroristic ideals in concert

Simon Nikorashkin

Celebrities and musicians came together to pay tribute to the victims of the terrorist bombing that wounded and killed so many on Feb. 6 in the Moscow Metro.

The House of Composers housed the charity event called "To Live and to Remember" hosted by the Moscow Union of Composers.

The Union invited celebrities to take part in the evening of mourning and to display support for Russia's tragic loss. Both the musicians and the celebrity gave their time and money as charity to benefit the families who had lost their loved ones.

The master of ceremonies were famous Russian actors Natalya Vereli and Vyacheslav Shalchevich.

"We must always remember about terrorism, the problem that has already spread all over the world. And we should not forget about the people who suffered from it," said Alexander Amel'yanov, the doctor of psychology and professor of the Moscow State University.

"The society must consolidate itself before the danger of world terrorism. And our concert shows that art has no fear before the face of the enemy and it will always serve people."

A suicide-terrorist blew up the subway car when the train was driving to the Pavshinsky station.

About 40 people were killed and about 100 wounded as a result of the attack.

Concerts like "To Live and to Remember" cannot fight the terrorism itself, but can give a good idea of goal. They can boost the moral of the international community to feel less terrorized by terrorism.

Election 2004
Little Tskhke wins the landslide in the first tour

Arseniy Proudnikov

At 9 p.m., Alexander Veshnyakov, head of Central Elections Commission, CIK, announced the result of Russia's presidential election. Vladimir Putin led the election race with 66.5 percent.

Putin's victory was an unexpected gift from Tatarstan, Chechnya, Dagastan and Bashkortostan. Countries where Mr. Putin won took 97-98 percent of the vote.

CIK officials were full of enthusiasm all night long from the poll results.

One of the Moscow State University students, who was affiliated with the info-agency Rosbalt, was thrown out of the building by CIK officials because he left a sheet that said "reserved" on his computer.

Everything would have been fine if Rosbalt had not been a National Bolshevik party leaflet, which contained things like, "Russia without Putin & I'll f**ked up the elections." This student served as an example of the Russian "democracy".

Also that evening, Kratstony Nikolai Mikhailovich, the male opponent to Putin, said that people will trust Putin only half of a year or a year.

It was clear he wasn't sure in his own words. Maybe he lacks charisma, which is the priority of our president.

His majesty Nikolai Mikhailovich, like a first-class pulp, directed his statement over and over for the media coverage.

Irina Hakamada, Russia's female presidential candidate, was expected to come to the democratic media, but never arrived. Instead of the media coverage, she chose to observe the process of counting votes from an alternative center.

Back in CIK's apartment 1300 reporters from 44 countries gathered to count the votes. At 11 p.m. Vladimir Vladimirovich Putin had 68.8 percent.

Local authorities began using sophisticated methods to ensure votes for Putin – they started giving theatre tickets and portraits of Putin to voters.

St. Petersburg officials distributed free disco tickets to young voters in effort to make them take part in Putin's victory. As a result, the God of stability got about 75 percent of the vote.

After midnight, the historical complex of The Manege caught fire.

Reports said that MSU, the journalism school across the street, was also likely to catch fire.

Nearby journalists looked very scared, yet governmental officials joked about MSU burning down, not caring one way or the other if it did.

The great fire was covered mainly by the NTV correspondents, which were reporting live even hour.

The governmental Russia channel showed the footage of burning Manege twice, while they were broadcasting Putin's overwhelming results and his speech during the press conference on his campaign headquarters.

How strange it is to watch the president ensure the prosperity and stability of Russia on one screen, while an apocalyptic scene was happening on another screen.

During Putin's performance the NTV journalists mocked Putin while the pro-Kremlin RTR staff kept silence and tried not to smile.

Hakamada got about 7 percent in Moscow-city & conquered the second place, at least it's better than nothing, right? But in the long run it only amounted to 3.9 percent of the vote.

At 10 a.m. the Themis-serviceman, who seemed to be very sleepy, but full of enthusiasm, announced that the candidate Vladimir Vladimirovich Putin, the big V.V.P. won the presidential throne. God bless Mr. Putin!
Students at the University of Washington, Tacoma voice their opinion about the Iraq War and the presence of U.S. Coalition forces stationed in Iraq.

"Steven Cahill: Bad idea."
"Trevor Kidd: Word to that."
"Margaret Rzynowska: It attempts to assert America’s conquering spirit."
"Marlene Hansen: Imperialism at its umost."
"Brent Biggs: I hope for a safe & speedy return for my friends that are in Iraq."

The interviews and photographs by Carmela Amador.

MSU speaks out:

A year has passed since the American troops invaded Iraq. In this joint issue of The Journalist, we have decided to ask the journalism students the following question. "Has year opinion about the war in Iraq changed this year?"

"Alexander Mizoukaev My opinion about the situation in Iraq hasn’t changed. The main reason American military invaded Iraq was not to find weapons of mass destruction, but to overthrow the regime of Saddam Hussein. Also, the Americans wanted to get Iraq’s oil fields. There is nothing bad in that but the Americans should have told the world about their genuine intentions instead of concocting ridiculous justifications."

"Alexander Malakhov. The war started because the United States wanted to control Iraqi oil. The Prime Minister of Great Britain Tony Blair indirectly confirmed it when he said: ‘weapons of mass destruction were found.’"

"Natasha Fursova. When the war began, I was against it. I thought it wasn’t really necessary. The American actions in the war were performed like a wet dream. It was evident that the Americans wouldn’t find any evidence of weapons of mass destruction. I understand why the Americans invaded because it wasn’t merely a restoration of democracy. I am still against this war. But, I also think the Americans have made a big mistake when they invaded Iraq. They will stay there for a long time and will resolve many problems with the fanatic rebels."

"Sabir Gasanov. I think the same as I did a year ago. The war was started by the United States to seize the Iraqi oil. I am against this war and I am against all wars. A normal man respects his belief should consider an alternative besides war."

"Lena Tikhonova. My attitude about the Iraq war hasn’t changed a bit. From the very beginning, my attitude was negative and it’s still negative. The Americans started the war in Iraq for the oil, not to find weapons of mass destruction. And now it is quite clear to everyone. The Americans told the entire world incorrect facts about the chemical weapons in Iraq. But as time passed, I believe these facts turned out to be false. I don’t understand these kinds of international relationships."

The interviews and photographs by Carmela Amador.

 Chronicles of Iraq

19.03.2003. Coalition forces cross the Iraqi border. War has begun. British and American bombers start to attack Baghdad and other cities. Airports of Basra are captured by the AIC.

25.03.2003. Iraqi forces are trying to drive AIC forces from Nasir’s suburbs. Ur-Karaz, a city in the southern part of Iraq, is captured by the coalition. The battlefield reaches Baghdad.


11.04.2003. This day is crucial for the war – Baghdad is taken by the AIC forces. Saddam Hussein is not captured. He retreats with the rest of his bodyguards. American Marines are preparing to assault Kirkuk and Mosul.

17.04.2003. All main cities are under the coalition control. AIC forces hunt down the remnants of the Iraqi army. Hussein is still hiding. Establishment of new Iraqi government begins.

05.05.2003. Situation in Iraq slowly stabilizes. All cities are regularly patrolled by the coalition forces. Police units of Iraqi volunteers are formed. Iraqi rebels continue to resist and sabotage attacks on American forces remain consistent.

06.06.2003 – 10.06.2003. New government is established. American forces still stationed in Iraq. American military presence resisted by Iraqi citizens. Rebels attack the coalition forces daily. U.S. President George W. Bush declares that war in Iraq is far from over. Weapons of mass destruction are not found. This time period can be called “silent guerrilla war.”

11.06.2003. The most bloody month for the coalition forces occurs when Iraqi rebels become surprisingly accurate in shooting down American military transport helicopters. There are multiple cases of kamikaze acts. Casualties are extremely high – approximately 200 American soldiers.

12.06.2003. On the 14 of December Saddam Hussein captured by American special forces. It is the main event in the Iraqi War. It did not make rebels surrender.

04.01.2004 - 03.04.2004. This time period is the one year anniversary of the Iraqi War. Situation in Iraq is still very tense. Weapons of mass destruction are not found. Saddam Hussein refuses to testify. U.S. President George W. Bush declares that American forces will stay in Iraq till 06.04.2004.

Andrew Bots.
Russia in our words:

Two UWT students on their journalism experience in Moscow

The thought of graduating this June used to make me feel like I’m almost finished with my education. I was grateful that it was finally over.

Traveling to Moscow, Russia for journalism this spring break helped me realize that my learning, in many capacities, is far from over. I was one of the students from the Moscow State University journalism department who arrived at this conclusion.

The students I worked with during production were bright, but sometimes it was a little difficult to translate words.

Going to Moscow, Russia has provided me with a better global understanding of other people and the small differences among us. I was surprised that Moscow State University was fantastic.

Although being in Moscow for six days was a dramatic change from American journalism, I’m glad MSU really made us feel at home.

Their attitudes in helping us get around via Metro, (the term for subway)rolley and the bus showed us that they were willing to make a special contribution to our experience in their country.

The ongoing presidential campaign in America seems to be largely controlled by the media, glorifying what one candidate has done or criticizing what he has failed to do.

Yes, President Bush has promoted growth in the economy after the events of terrorism in America. Sure, he’s maintained national security in America. Kerry has provided me with a better perspective on the other side of the world.

The question Americans have to ask themselves is whether they want to improve America? By choosing Bush, they would be voting to maintain the leadership of one of its veterans. “Change is coming to America,” says Kerry at the end of his presidential campaign.

Social services, such as healthcare, have been cut and due to a tax relief President George W. Bush approved in 2001 that gave a tax break to the upper class, the middle and lower classes were taxed more in proportion to their income and higher health care costs.

With a growing deficit as well as unemployment, layoffs became the result of the upper class tax break. Without a job or healthcare, some middle class families began to slide into destitution.

Russia, the land of wondrous palaces and the rich quality of Russian food just isn’t the same. And that’s disheartening.

Social services, such as healthcare, have been cut and due to a tax relief President George W. Bush approved in 2001 that gave a tax break to the upper class, the middle and lower classes were taxed more in proportion to their income and higher health care costs. Kerry has the opportunity to become the next American president.

The Kremlin and the Red Square. These two places contained wondrous palaces where the Czar’s lived and beautiful cathedrals that showed the rich quality of their countries dominant religion, which is orthodox.

Being immersed in the Russian culture has made it clear to me that American and Russian people aren’t that different. Sure riding in a taxi down the streets of Moscow feels like you’re in the Daytona 500 with no stop signs, stoplights, speed limit or lane dividers. Sure riding in a taxi down the streets of Moscow feels like you’re in the Daytona 500 with no stop signs, stoplights, speed limit or lane dividers. Sure riding in a taxi down the streets of Moscow feels like you’re in the Daytona 500 with no stop signs, stoplights, speed limit or lane dividers. Sure riding in a taxi down the streets of Moscow feels like you’re in the Daytona 500 with no stop signs, stoplights, speed limit or lane dividers. Sure riding in a taxi down the streets of Moscow feels like you’re in the Daytona 500 with no stop signs, stoplights, speed limit or lane dividers. Sure riding in a taxi down the streets of Moscow feels like you’re in the Daytona 500 with no stop signs, stoplights, speed limit or lane dividers.

Dasha, one of the students working with us, would refer to her peers in Russian for help on finding an English word.

“Excuse me for speaking in Russian again,” Dasha said to me.

“Excuse me for my English, and my lack of Russian,” I said back to her with a laugh.

This short exchange of words, one with an American accent and one with a Russian accent stuck with me after the trip. It’s funny, how sometimes you can’t learn in a classroom what you can learn in a short conversation with another student on the other side of the world.

The students that guided us around Moscow knew the history of each building. The students would in detail about what was going on in their government, and introduced me to some very interesting foods. Their vast knowledge impressed me greatly, yet I felt cheated with my meager American education. The Russian government has much less money than ours, yet do our education is so much poorer.

The students at MSU are far beyond where I was in my second year of college in maturity and knowledge of the world around them.

The kremlin and the red square. These two places contained wondrous palaces where the cazar’s lived and beautiful cathedrals that showed the rich quality of their countries dominant religion, which is orthodox.

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When I was chosen to go on this trip, I knew things wouldn’t be the same. And that’s what I was looking forward to.

I did notice a big difference between the students here in America and the students in Moscow. I think all Americans should visit another country to gather an appreciation for the freedoms and not take for granted the freedoms, opportunities and resources we have in America.

- Carmela Amador

- Marques Hunter
Yassen Zassoursky: THE OTHER SIDE OF THE GLOBE

I think it depends on their national character. Americans don't like collective action as we do. They are very independent. You see, in America you should help yourself. And I think it's great. In the USA everything you do should be done by your own hands. As you may know, the first immigrants in the early XVIII century were very strong people, as they had to do all the work. They had to build new houses, to resist cold winters and warm summers, to create new culture, to create a new world.

United country - united culture

Mr. Yassen Nickolaeivitch, is American culture of one piece or it is a mixture of many others?

I think that English is dominant, as Americans speak English and not French or German. But we shouldn't forget black people, who were slaves. They introduced a great amount of significant things into American culture. People all over the world listen to jazz, ragtime, blues and very interesting spiritual drum music. And, of course, there are Latin features. Spanish language is the second for the inhabitants of parts of the USA. So American culture has a lot of roots. It's saved distinguishing features of different cultures, and this makes a unique face of America. United country - united culture.

Mobile and religious

How do Russian and American cultures differ and what do they have in common?

"Differences in culture and mentality are connected firstly with the history. Recently, I've got the so-called tree of my family. I know eleven generations and all of them lived in one town, Penza. Americans are the nation of immigrants. They have "my country," the USA, and the motherland, where their grandparents are from. We have deeper roots as Europeans. We are attached to our native towels and heartfelt. Of course, Americans have their room too, but they are out of America. Maybe that's why Americans are more mobile and dynamic. They can do business, go to the city and live with his wife in another, which is unusual for us. They don't like to rely on somebody. There is no such thing as a huge family, as we have in Russia. An American leaves his man's and dad's earlier and start to make his own life. There is not "inviolence" in the mentality. There are some differences in the religion.

For the dean of the faculty of journalism (MSU) Yassen Nickolaeivitch Zassoursky is an outstanding person who has had a major impact on Russian culture. For the students, he's a man who writes once a week, who always says hello, who switches them smoking in the corner, and whose books they read in the library. The majority of his books are devoted to America and its culture...

He strides along the frozen cobbledstone sidewalk, confidently making his way through the bustling crowds of Moscow, Russia. The cold wind stings him like a needle as he passes through the Kramlin, marveling the elegant cathedrals, museums and historic buildings.

by Marques Hunter

Most Americans wouldn't dare strolling into the heart of Moscow with hordes of people. But University of Washington, Tacoma (UWT) Professor Bill Richardson enjoys talking to the people and noticing the small differences between American and Russian people.

Richardson is a professor of history and international studies and department chair in the Interdisciplinary Arts and Science program at UWT. As a scholar, he has conducted research at the University of Ljubljana in Slovenia. Last year, he flew to Moscow with two students and one faculty from UWT to initiate the first collaboration between UWT and Moscow State University (MSU) journalism students.

Richardson speaks Russian German, French and Spanish. He has visited Russia more than 10 times. Since the collapse of communism in 1991, Russia has undergone political change. This, according to Richardson, has allowed the Russian people to feel more comfortable because they have individual freedom. "People are willing to tell the truth now, whereas before they were taught something that the government wanted them to say," Richardson said.

He first visited Moscow in 1982 when he was a graduate student studying the history of Russia. According to Richardson, when communism was in power, people were formal and would rarely invite him to their apartments. Since the rise of democracy, he said, everything is different in terms of the interpersonal interactions of the Russian people.

"In the '90s, you get a whole different understanding of society and the individual," Richardson said.

Having spent a considerable amount of time in Russia, Richardson notices many of the little differences between Americans and Russians. He says that people in Russia walk differently because of the snow and ice on the ground. He notes that people in Russia have much more serious looks on their faces, versus Americans who smile more often. Although the Russians may not smile as much, they value their families much more than Americans.

"One of the things I like about the Russians is that they have a very strong family support unit," Richardson said. "And, it's not just your immediate family. It's your friends and the people you work with. Russians are much closer to their family and rely on each other a lot more."

The best school in Moscow is MSU. Just as many students at UWT think education is important, MSU students also take great pride in their education system. MSU students focus much more in their majors. "By the time they get to the university, they really a good education behind them," Richardson said.

There are some differences in the education system between UWT and MSU, according to Richardson.

UWT students take a variety of classes that include electives. MSU students also take elective courses, but they focus much more on their individual majors. The curriculum at MSU is more like graduate school than undergraduate school because it requires more coursework in more depth on their majors. High school curriculums in Moscow are much more like a blending of half high school and community college.

Only a small portion of students go to college in Russia. So for them, going to college is viewed as a special opportunity.

"For the Russian students their lives are being a student," Richardson said.

In MSU school, Richardson was going to be a physicist. When college came, he was required to take a foreign language in college. He eventually found out that he didn't want to be a physicist. He later took a course in Russian literature and Russian history and thought it was fascinating.

It is understood in American culture that a foreigner must learn the English language of fall behind. Americans, on the other hand, are reluctant to learn a different language given the common use of the English language in the home. Richardson said the Russians are very good at learning other foreign languages.

"They don't know the slang, but they pick that up pretty fast," Richardson said. "That's one of their strengths; their ability to study foreign language and learning the foreign language.

When going to Russia, Richardson enjoys the historical sites, libraries, archives and especially talking to the people. He has great admission for the people that lived through World War II and the Joseph Stalin period.

Essentially, Richardson thinks Russia is a fascinating place.

"I think this connection with Moscow State is really valuable to us (UWT). And, I think they (MSU) see it valuable to their students as well."