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2014 Sochi Olympic champion, freestyler Alla Tsuper carried the flag of Belarus at the opening ceremony of the 23rd Winter Olympic Games in PyeongChang

Olympiad is in full swing. We're expecting medals from our Olympians.

The Belarusian delegation was the 29th to step into the Olympic arena among 92 countries taking part in the 2018 Olympic Games. Apart from Alla Tsuper, the Belarusian national team included two more Olympic champions: freestyler Anton Kushnir and biathlete Darya Domracheva, who claimed three gold awards at the Sochi

Olympics. Another Belarusian skier, Nadezhda Skardino, also earned bronze there. Skier Sergey Dolidovich is the most experienced Belarusian athlete for whom the current Games are the seventh in his career. Alongside these, 27 other Belarusian athletes will be competing for medals in PyeongChang-2018.

There is no easy bread, making the work of farmers even more valuable



Minsk gathered farmers from all over the country to host an award ceremony for the best workers of the agricultural sector, with the President of Belarus attending

By Vasily Kharitonov

Alexander Lukashenko believes work in agriculture is the most difficult but also the most interesting. “I was lucky enough to work in the village for many years. I cannot say that I am a great farmer — as some in Belarus and beyond believe. I’m not an agriculturalist but a villager. This is much broader than being a farmer,” the Head of State noted. “When speaking about the village and its lifestyle, we mean people and their relations, as well as the rural social life. We speak of people’s attitude to labour — which is much broader.”

Mr. Lukashenko noted that Belarus has managed to overcome negative attitudes to village life in people’s minds. The President also stressed the need to be prepared for the ongoing transformation in rural areas and the arrival of new technologies. “Robots in agriculture are natural in many countries. We are not just observing this trend, but we are beginning to master these technologies — initially in animal husbandry,” he added.

He recalled how, on beginning his professional political life, he intuitively foresaw that no state is possible without a village. “We must treasure villages since they are the foundations of our life. Villages have



Participants of the ceremony honouring leading workers of the agro-industrial complex

been not only providing food but also saving the nation from degeneration. This comes naturally to Belarus,” he said.

Mr. Lukashenko stressed that only villagers know the true value of the work invested in the land. Although industrial and scientific achievements help, farmers’ work remains one of the most stressful and difficult. “There is no time for holidays and weekends during harvest time. It’s important to give the land as much time and effort as it needs. These cannot be measured by daylight or fatigue. The land tests everyone

to their limits. It takes all the attention but gives much in return — if treated with care.”

The President heartily thanked the leaders among the grain collectors 2017 in the Minsk and Grodno regions. The highest yield was obtained by Gastellovskoe JSC of the Minsk District (almost 10,000kg per hectare). The grain yield reached almost 9,600 in the Grodno District’s agricultural farms. He addressed the important issue of preservation of the harvest. Many storehouses have been built and, thanks to them, eco-

friendly fresh fruits and vegetables are sold at local shops right up to the new harvest.

Belarus is among the top countries with a high level of food provision for the population, according to international experts and specialists of the UN Food and Agriculture Organisation. At present, food production per capita in the country meets the level of developed countries and is in many respects higher than that achieved in the CIS.

More importantly, while supplying the domestic market, Belarusian companies

maintain their export positions in the region of the former Soviet Union and some states of the European Union, as well as Arabic, Asian, African and Latin American regions — embracing over 60 countries.

According to the President, it’s no exaggeration to say that Belarusian dairy products have become a national brand. The country is among the five leading exporters of these products. Belarus is fourth globally regarding the export of cheeses and fifth in selling skimmed milk powder. As regards exports of butter, Belarus is among the top three world leaders. The range of products in the dairy industry includes over 1,500 items — all made from natural milk (in contrast to foreign products).

Mr. Lukashenko also drew attention to the fact that Belarus is ranked eighth in the world among the exporters of beef and poultry, selling meat to over 20 countries. “Our strong position in the world’s largest food markets is a major step forward. It’s important not only to preserve them but also expand. We produce and maintain agricultural machinery independently; this is a great advantage and the key to successful development for the state aimed at the agricultural sector of the economy,” the President concluded.

Dear place where we all were born

By Vladimir Khromov

2018 announced as the Year of Small Motherland in Belarus

At the formal ceremony bestowing state awards on the best workers in the agricultural industry, President Alexander Lukashenko explained that the adoption of this important decision was encouraged by thoughts about the importance of their local Motherland in the destiny of each person.

“Native lands can be different. For some people, it means a hometown, a street, or a small community, a village where they spent the best years of their childhood. For others, it is a piece of wild nature pleasing to the eye

and the senses. Belarus itself is the native country for those who have left it to seek their fortunes in other places,” noted the Head of State.

The President stressed that it is time for everyone to remember their roots, the place that keeps a part of their heart, and pay respects to it. “Such support should come from the bottom of the heart. It can be material, creative, enlightening — it depends on the person, his or her abilities, imagination and commitment. The time has come to show your worth and etch your name in the history of your native land,” stated the Belarusian leader.

Today, Belarus is a beautiful country with clean comfortable cities, well-kept agricultural



Homestead in Petrikov District

lands and rich nature. “The state has done a lot in this respect and plans to do even more. Belarus is our common home, and it is in our interest to make it comfortable so that it becomes an example

to follow,” added Mr. Lukashenko. “Let us show that we are true careful owners of our land. There are many of us, and if every citizen makes a small contribution, our country will become even

greater.”

According to the Head of State, the personal participation of every citizen in this process will be a good example of true patriotism for further generations, when praiseworthy slogans and words are backed with actions. Mr. Lukashenko believes that this is not a task for just one year; it will probably take several years. It would be even better if it were to become a normal part of life. Our motherland needs love, energy, faith and care from every Belarusian. Belarus looks the way we see it and create it. The more successful self-confident people there are, the stronger the state is. We should communicate this message to our children,” said the President.

Neighbours have good prospects for force application

By Vasily Kharitonov

The message of the President of Belarus at the start of the meeting was of interest. He noted, "I'm very happy to see you in Belarus and glad you have come. It is often said that we have good relations with Latvia (at least in comparison with our other neighbours). But I think we can do better. There is considerable untapped potential. In this context, your visit to Belarus is a landmark."

During the meeting, the President spoke about Belarus' relations with neighbouring countries. "We are not going to create any problems for our neighbours and wish to stay on good terms with them. This is the principle in our relations with Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia. We have never reproached you for joining the European Union. On the contrary, we are trying to benefit from it, and we are happy when you are a success. But you should clearly understand that Russia is more than a friendly country for us, our brothers live there," emphasised Mr. Lukashenko.

The President admitted that Belarus and Russia do sometimes have problems in building their relations. "However, this is quite another story. These are not issues between the people of Belarus and the people of Russia. These are between two governments, the President of Russia and the President of Belarus. If we don't manage to come to agreement sometimes, it has nothing to do with relations between our peoples," he said.

Mr. Lukashenko pointed out that links with Russia are also beneficial for Belarus from an economic point of view. "Belarus' economy is strong. According to various estimates, we produce from \$75bn to \$100bn. As you know, economic results should materialise in trade. The EU and Russia are our major markets."

The President underlined the need to maintain peace and calm in the region. There should be an end to the conflict in the east of Ukraine that they have been unable to settle for several years. "God forbid



Alexander Lukashenko and Māris Kučinskis

it develops further. Let's keep our land, the geographical centre of Europe, peaceful and calm. In this regard, you can count on Belarus," asserted the Head of State.

According to Mr. Lukashenko, Belarus and Latvia can make considerable progress in all avenues of co-operation that are of mutual interest. This pertains to the economic and political dimensions. "We need to step up our efforts, I hope that we will manage

to achieve a great deal from this visit," noted the President.

Mr. Lukashenko spoke sincerely about the basis of his views and his world outlook. "You are right when you say that I'm a Soviet man. Yes, I am. I have never viewed Latvia and Riga as an alien country or an alien city. You are not foreigners to us, we used to live in one country. Moreover, we're neighbours. I think the same about the Lithuanians and Estonians, so

in that respect it does not matter what world views and political views I have," he stressed.

Mr. Lukashenko emphasised that Belarus is ready to develop relations with Latvia based on compromise. "We're ready to build relations with you, we want both of us to be more independent in terms of hydrocarbons. You have direct access to the sea, so we can agree on deliveries. Renewable energy and electric energy are especially

important topics," he added.

The President believes that the Belarusian nuclear power station can be a common heritage for the region's countries. "This station is Belarusian. We are moving towards globalisation and the boundaries are blurring. The time will come when it becomes a common heritage for Belarus and Latvia," noted Mr. Lukashenko. He thanked Latvia for not criticising Belarus for the construction of its own nuclear power plant. According to the President, it will bring benefits for the current generation and future ones.

Mr. Lukashenko said that Poland also wants to build its own nuclear power station, but no one is taking a stand against these plans. "We will construct the plant. We're building it in compliance with the principles of international law. I often suggest that we decide together how we can use it." According to Mr. Lukashenko, Belarus is very concerned about the safety of its nuclear power plant, more than other states. "We bear the responsibility. For some reason, no one is against the nuclear power plants that are built everywhere else. Russia builds scores of such plants and reactors across the globe. Therefore, we will complete the Belarusian nuclear power station and I suggest we reap mutual benefits from it," he concluded.

The Latvian Prime Minister hopes to boost interaction with Belarus. "I believe that this visit will give a certain impetus to our relations. As for economic collaboration, in my opinion, we have not taken advantage of many fields of common interest," noted Mr. Kučinskis. He drew attention to the fact that Latvia knows Belarus well and the sides can speak one language, which also promotes their contacts. "We can search for opportunities to develop co-operation not only in transit and logistics," added the Latvian PM.

Mr. Kučinskis underlined the interest in co-operation in agriculture, forestry, education and science. "I think that we can develop liaisons in other areas too," he added.

Agreement, memorandum and programme



Agreement between the governments of Belarus and Latvia on

early notification of nuclear accidents, information sharing and co-operation in nuclear security and radiation protection was signed in Minsk by Belarus' Prime Minister, Andrei Kobyakov, and the Prime Minister of Latvia, Māris Kučinskis

Mr. Kobyakov and Mr. Kučinskis have also signed a memorandum on mutual understanding across major areas of economic co-operation for medium-term prospects between the Belarusian and Latvian governments, as well as an agreement on co-operation in the sphere of aviation search

and rescue of civil aircraft.

An agreement was also concluded between the State Science and Technology Committee of Belarus and Education and Science Ministry of Latvia on sci-tech co-operation. The Sports and Tourism Ministry of Belarus and the Education and Science Ministry of Latvia also signed an agreement on co-operation in physical culture and sport. A co-operative programme was also signed in Minsk between the Ministry for Natural Resources and Environmental Protection of Belarus and the Ministry for Environmental Protection and Regional Development of Latvia for 2018-2020.



No alternative to a peaceful process

By Alexey Fedosov

Belarus, like no one else, understands the harmfulness of the logic of confrontation, notes Foreign Minister, Vladimir Makei, in an interview to *Izvestiya* newspaper

"Being located on the so-called geopolitical fault line, Belarus, like no one else, understands the ills of the logic of confrontation which leads to a spiral of tension and confrontation on the European continent. To stop this dangerous trend and restore at least a minimum level

of trust, we need an open, transparent and mutually respectful dialogue of all the stakeholders, including not only diplomats but also military experts," believes Mr. Makei.

The Minister reminded that it was the reason why the Belarusian Head of State suggested a broad discussion on the ways to overcome existing contradictions in relations between the countries on the common Euro-Atlantic and Eurasian areas at the meeting of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly in Minsk last year.

When asked about the NATO activi-

ties, the Belarusian Minister said, "We are well aware of the military activities of the NATO member countries, including near the borders of Belarus and we are assessing it objectively. Undoubtedly, this activity does not contribute to the strengthening of security and the reduction of tensions in the region."

The interview also tackled the topic of conflict in Ukraine. Mr. Makei underlined the fact that there's no alternative to a peaceful settlement of the crisis in the east of Ukraine. Belarus has not changed its position since the very start of the conflict.

"The Minsk Agreements helped address the central task at the time, which was to stop the war, to end the bloodshed that was taking place on a frightening scale."

The Belarusian Foreign Minister said that the most prominent Soviet diplomat, Andrei Gromyko, a native of Belarus, followed the principle of 'ten years of negotiations are better than one day of war'. "We are guided by this principle today. The Minsk venue will be available as long as the parties need it to resolve the conflict," added the Foreign Minister of Belarus.



At the Kamvol JSC production facility

Vacancies available for job seekers

Obviously, seeing is believing: companies invite job seekers to visit their facilities

By Taisia Azanovich

It's not a problem now to find a job: simple a desire is needed. Moreover, the employment service is always ready to help — through job fairs, retraining into professions which are in need or consultations of professionals. Since recently, unemployed can enjoy another unique opportunity: visits to production sites. As a result, anyone can enjoy an interesting sightseeing tour at the prospective workplace. No companies keep in secret their working conditions, wages and prospects now.

Working process

Kamvol has recently organised such a day of open doors. Actually, employers got ready to meet potential candidates — preparing tours along their workshops to enable future workers to see everything with their own eyes.

The Deputy General Director for Human Resources Management and Ideology — Yelena Pleskova — explains, “Our company is associated with beauty and fashion. Our fabric is used to sew costumes, dresses, uniforms, clothes for schoolchildren. Meanwhile, production should not be confused with the catwalk: there is noise, dust and intense work in our workshops. Potential candidates should understand this, relying not simply on words.”

Ms. Pleskova comments also on their decision to invite the un-

employed to production facilities, “We've faced the shortage of personnel due to the launch of additional shifts. We are now increasing our production volumes and have announced the formation of another shift. We want to show people what conditions we offer and what equipment we use. Actually, our tools are computer-controlled and, accordingly, certain skills are required.”

The enterprise has almost no vacancies related to room cleaning but is in great need of specialists to work with the

DIRECT SPEECH

Tatiana KUDEVICH, the Deputy Chair of the Committee on Labour, Employment and Social Protection at Minsk's City Executive Committee:

At the moment, we are working over such forms of work as on-site mini-fairs of jobs and days of open doors for companies which experience a great shortage of personnel. This year alone, we organised 12 such events. This is a very convenient format for candidates.

key equipment. Kamvol is even ready to employ persons without special education, offering training itself. The plant's training programme could hardly be called easy: an employee needs to study for six months, also receiving wages during this period.

Ms. Pleskova explains why so much attention is paid to the educational process, “You should simply see how quickly our specialists work; they are like bees. Fingers are moving so fast that the eye does not have time to blink. Against this speed, it's important not only to master



all technical nuances but bring them to automatism. We highly appreciate such features as excellent motor skills, dexterity and a flash-like reaction. Mostly young people manage to demonstrate these. They also easily master computer programmes.”

The day of open doors was attended by ten persons, with three of them immediately recruited. That was not a bad result!

Personnel balance

Nikolay Tribulev, the HR Department Head at Minsk's Electrotechnical Plant, admits that it's becoming increasingly difficult to find a valuable employee in recent years. “We are sometimes addressed by people who have not been working for up to five years. Of course, there are exceptions but qualified spe-

cialists are not endlessly in seek of a job; they are quietly working and making money.”

The Minsk Electrotechnical Plant has also organised a day of open doors — which was a success: not less than twenty people came in two hours. Two of them are already employed. However, the plant still has over ten vacancies, with the average salary of Br1,000.

Open days for companies and fairs of jobs are being practiced for not long but their advantages are obvious: the unemployed can fully immerse themselves into the production environment and feel well working conditions. As a result, none of them experiences excitement natural for an interview. They neighbour similar unemployed who've also come to get acquainted with the ‘working environment’.

This new experience of working with staff is gaining momentum and employers now need to understand whether such forms of employees' seeking are effective. In turn, the employment service needs to assess the efficiency of employment. Actually, the practice shows: applications for recruitment are actively approved during such days of open doors.

Number of companies will surely increase

By Alexey Fedosov

New resident registered at Great Stone Chinese-Belarusian Industrial Park

The new company — RESIF Technologies Bel — is the third resident of the Industrial Park this year and the 26th resident overall. In 2018-2020, RESIF Technologies Bel plans to realise a project on the creation of highly-precise production of components for the aerospace industry and robotics, as well as optical, medical and food machine building and ship-building, using laser sintering techniques.

Previously, the CEO of the Industrial Park Development Company, Hu Zheng recently announced that the contracted amount of companies' investments in the Park has reached 41bn. “We can say that the Industrial Park has made a breakthrough in attracting investments, seeing early success and laying a solid foundation for its long-term development. In 2018, the construction of the infrastructure will be finished, occupying 8.5sq.km. Moreover, an area has been prepared for sale or rent by the Park's residents,” he noted.

REQUIREMENTS

In **2018**, the Industrial Park Development Company hopes to increase the number of the Park's residents to at least

35 and, by **2020** — to **60-70** companies.

The Industrial Park Development Company also plans to increase the scale and intensity of the construction of standard buildings to satisfy investors' demands and to build the industrial and logistics zone to service the export-oriented economy of Belarus. The company will also use the funds of China's technical-economic assistance for the construction of the staff preparation centre and public facilities (such as a scientific-research centre and residential housing for the Park's employees) also to enhance the quality of public transport at the Park by buying automobiles using new energy sources and pilotless buses.

It is impossible to ignore beautiful sewing skills

MT
reporters
visit
Minsk's
Centre of
Fashion

By Irina Ovsepyan



This fashionable story began long ago, in 1948. The House of Models opened in post-war Minsk, which was being rebuilt from ruins. This modest fashion centre employed 21 staff. After the hardships of the war, people dreamt of better lives and beautiful clothes and so Soviet light industry undertook the task of solving the problem by any available means — which were extremely limited.

The first Belarusian fashion specialists designed clothes from the simplest fabrics: a stiff linen cloth and semi-bleached fabrics. However, their cuts were unique and amazing. The simplicity of the fabrics required ingenuity in decoration; as a result, the experience of the older skilled workers helped: hemstitch, embroidery and ornaments were widely used. Not surprisingly, Belarusian designs were winning international competitions and were so bright that even world fashion gurus — such as Pierre Cardin and Ted Lapidus — came to Minsk to see the work of the House of Models.

The Belarusian Centre of Fashion cherishes the traditions laid down by the founders and pioneers of Belarusian design. Its Director, Igor Selitsky, explains that Russian contractors now regularly buy linen clothes made in Belarus. “We love flax and can work with it,” he says. “We use fabrics from the Orsha Linen Mill. Of course, they undergo a long post-processing process as Orsha flax is used by many companies and we can reach a certain group of consumers by creating something unique. Our designers sometimes even paint with their own hands to ensure the uniqueness of the

product. Of course, not every catwalk item can be adapted for production, but we try. For example, our recent linen



collection includes around 40 percent such designs (with minor improvements and simplification); these will

be ready for sale in spring-summer.”

The Centre of Fashion is part of the Bellegprom Concern; it produces clothes for mid and premium markets in small batches. Among them are formal and stylish business suits suitable even for a reception with the Queen of England, elegant evening dresses, Belarusian classical linen designs, ready-to-wear and complicated catwalk models produced in a single item... The Centre creates outerwear for both everyday life and concert performances; Belarusian TV stars are common customers. Since 2014 (when a new director was employed), new designers have joined. Among the most promising are Anton Yaroshchik, Inna Gonchar and Yulia Alexandrova.

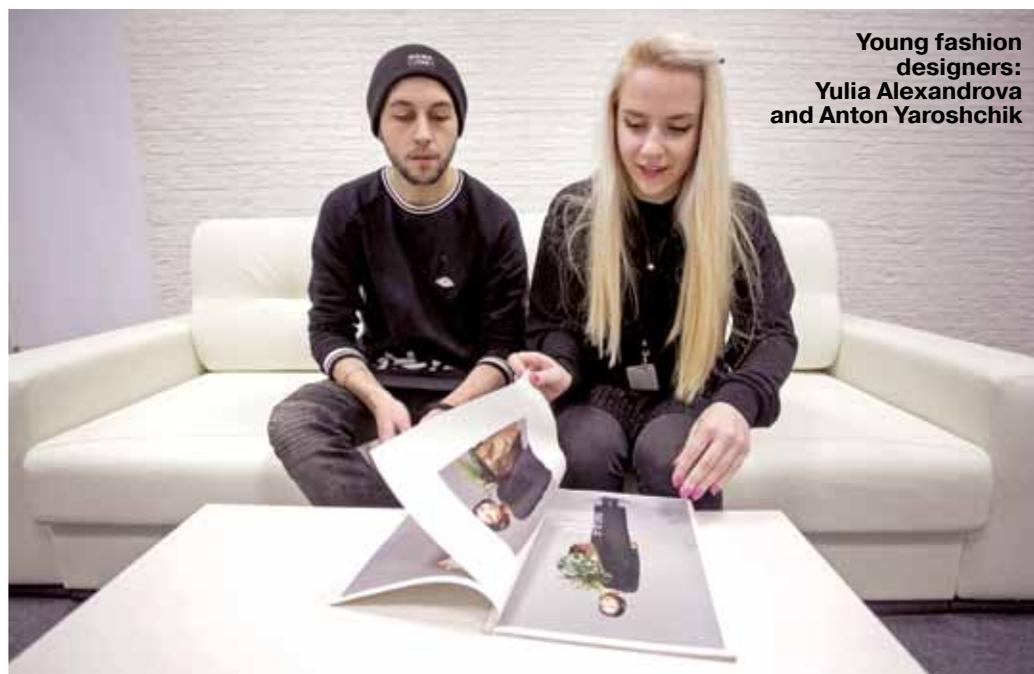
Mr. Selitsky explains his choice, “Our top designers have a great desire to work

and boast a sense of fashion trends. Each of them is strong in a particular sphere: Anton is great at designing ethnic costumes, Yulia works on formal business suits and classical clothing, while Inna flexibly combines styles. Furthermore, when preparing certain collections, we attract other designers to inject some novelty. A year ago, we liaised with Irina Boitik; she is a very interesting designer. We always want something new and it is also an incentive for our employees.”

Anton Yaroshchik and Yulia Alexandrova are young

and they are steadily maturing as authors — though their works already demonstrate individuality. Yulia joined the Centre of Fashion several years ago after winning the *New Names* competition held at Belarusian Fashion Week. The major prize for young designers is an opportunity to create and put into production their own collection of clothes, at a Belarusian light industry enterprise. Yulia's first collection was quickly followed by another and the young lady has worked at the country's oldest fashion house for the last three years.

Working at the enterprise differs from the creativity of free artists who have no strict limits in terms of collection release deadlines. However, the experience gained at the Centre of Fashion is unlikely to be found elsewhere. Anton confirms, “Imaginations — which are made from real life and natural for beginner fashion designers — quickly fade away when work at the company starts. Even when developing a catwalk collection, we still think that somebody will one day wear these clothes; this practical approach cannot be ignored. Even when we wish to experiment, the result must still look like a dress.”



Young fashion designers:
Yulia Alexandrova
and Anton Yaroshchik



The virtual reality Teslasuit is a Belarusian project

Smart gadgets to appear in apartment interiors

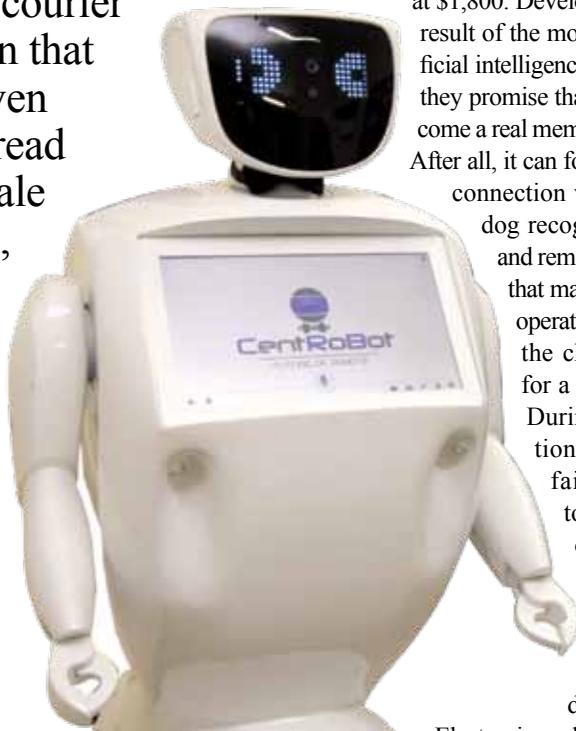
The future of mankind no longer seems remote; it is getting closer each day. The technologies of the future — when artificial intelligence is present in almost every gadget — were recently presented at the International Consumer Electronics Show (CES) in Las Vegas. Among the exhibits were a flying taxi, courier drones, a robot dog, a television that can be rolled into a tube and even intelligent underwear that can read body biorhythms. The large-scale forum was like a time machine, able to transport its visitors into a new fantasy world where nothing is impossible. Over 4 thousand companies — including both industry leaders and start-ups — presented their developments in the field of artificial intelligence. Among them was a Belarusian project: the ‘Teslasuit’ virtual reality suit.

By Olga Zdanovich

The robots were the most exciting part of the show. Honda has announced that it is working on creating a talking robot that is pleasant to touch and hug. In turn, Sony has invented an electronic replacement for animals: in Las Vegas, the company presented its robotic dog — named Aibo and priced at \$1,800. Developers say it is the result of the most advanced artificial intelligence technology and they promise that Aibo could become a real member of the family. After all, it can form an emotional connection with people: the dog recognises its master and remembers the things that make it happy. Aibo operates on a battery but the charge only lasts for a couple of hours. During the presentation however, Aibo failed to respond to the commands of Sony’s CEO. The machine rebellion was supported by the home robot developed by LG Electronics, which also failed to follow instructions.

Despite these setbacks, an increasing number of smart gadgets and devices are presented at the show every year. For example, the American Bell Helicopter company demonstrated an electric taxi able to fly, though only vertically. Only the cabin was on show, as the whole design needs some improvement. Experts believe that 2018 will see a breakthrough in the field of artificial intelligence that can be used in cars, smartphones or home appliances. Just imagine a smart home where tea can be made through the Internet and an assistant robot is engaged in cleaning. All these technologies are now a matter of cost, since not everyone can afford to buy them. At the same time, specialists are making bold predictions, stressing that the market for innovative electronics will grow and prices will become more acceptable.

The virtual reality ‘Teslasuit’ was invented in Belarus. CEO Dmitry Mikhailchuk began developing his project in Minsk and then opened another office in London. Teslasuit is unique as it covers the entire body, fully immersing a person in a different reality. Thanks to its electrical system, a gamer will be able to physically feel any fall or bump that occurs during play. However, the suit can not only be used in the entertainment industry. It could act as a simulator for athletes and would be able to co-ordinate movements according to examples pre-recorded in the system.



Innovative development of the Belarusian CentRoBot company

Bigger income envisages bigger stress

People with higher living standards are more subject to emotional stress

By Oleg Bogomazov

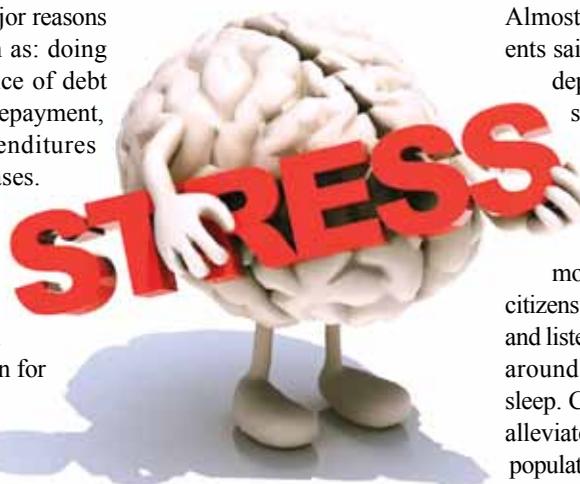
During a survey of households’ standard of living, the National Statistical Committee of Belarus conducted a research project to study the population’s attitude towards a healthy lifestyle. The programme included issues of the population’s assessment of its health, attitudes towards it as a value, ways of improving and preserving health, on physical exercise and sport and the spread of harmful habits. More than 6,000 respondents took part from various categories of the population.

“Only 20 percent of the pop-

ulation noted that they hadn’t experienced stress while almost the same number said that they were often subject to stress. Moreover, stress took place among women 1.5 times more often than among men,” explains Yelena Kukharevich, the Deputy Chair of the National Statistical Committee. “The data from the survey shows that those with a higher standard of living are more often subject to stress than those with lesser incomes. In the most well-to-do group, stress was experienced by 25 percent, while in the poorer category it was 20 percent.”

As a result, according to Ms.

Kukharevich, the major reasons for stress are shown as: doing business, the presence of debt and problems with repayment, large material expenditures and property purchases. These factors were noted by 57 percent of respondents. Family issues were named as the second most important reason for stress. Moreover, men more often experience stress doing business while women have more stress because of family problems. However, 20 percent of



the population pointed to stress at work (24 percent of men and around 20 percent of women).

Almost 95 percent of respondents said that they can cope independently with stress, to step back from the situation and pull themselves together. In total, passive forms of stress release are most common for Belarusians. Most citizens note that they watch TV and listen to music to relax while around 50 percent mentioned sleep. Communication serves to alleviate stress for a third of the population. Reading, walking in the countryside, physical labour and work at summer cottages were ranked fourth in the rating of ways to combat stress.

Holding all the cards

It's possible to save money in the capital with a Minsk guest card: this allows the tourist to visit museums free of charge, up to half price off at many restaurants and even have a swim in a waterpark

By Lilia Khlystun

Minsk has organised a special scheme for tourists: from January it was possible to buy a tourist pass for 24, 48 and 72 hours. The pass guarantees limitless travel on city buses, trolleybuses, trams and 10 metro trips, as well as free visits to 22 museums and a zoo. Moreover, it envisages 10-50 percent discounts for 15 hotels, separate restaurants, cafes, a waterpark, car rental, visits to museums not included on the list of free museums and free trips on two urban tourist buses.

Those purchasing a pass will also enjoy discounts in some shops, even after its expiry date. The most up-to-date travellers have managed to take advantage of a special offer from December 26th to January 10th of 10 percent discount for those pre-ordering on the website www.minskpass.by.

The *Minsk Guest Card* is a joint project of MinskgorSpravka enterprise and Minsk Tourist Information Centre, on the instruction of the Minsk City Executive Committee. 74 sites included in the service provide guests with information about the most interesting points in the capital and its suburbs. For example, a tourist can visit such landmark sights in Minsk as the National Art Museum, the Museum of the Great Patriotic War and the National History Museum.

According to MinskgorSpravka's Director, Boris Vasiliev, before developing the guest card, the experience



Tourists at Architectural, Residential and Cultural Complex of the Radziwill Family in Nesvizh

of other countries in presenting a similar product to tourists was studied. For example, forty European cities use such passes. Variants were initially considered using ready-made software but later it was concluded that a tourist



pass should be completely our own development to quickly and flexibly react to new tourist needs.

As a result, the Minsk guest card has a range of significant advantages. For example, limitless (rather than discount) trips on public transport means tourists can save a great deal. The service also includes almost all museums, including the National Academy of Sciences museum and extravaganza Cat Museum. The prospects for the pass are promising. Chief specialist on information technologies, marketing and tourism at MinskgorSpravka, Alexander Shifrin, is in no doubt that it will be very popular and will expand quickly.

Alongside ideas to release a card for five or seven days, there's also a plan to develop a similar pass beyond the borders of the Belarusian capital. There are enough interesting places and routes beyond the limits of the Minsk ring road, e.g. Mir Castle (registered on the UNESCO World Heritage List) and the architectural and cultural complex of Radziwill residence in Nesvizh.

The major advantage of the tourist pass is significant money saving. The Minsk Card for one, two and three days costs Br45, Br60 and Br78 respectively. It can be activated within 12 months of purchase and the moment of activation is the first scan of the QR-code or manual data input from the Minsk Card during the first visit to a museum or an excursion.

Easier to follow for tourists and guests from China

By Alexander Pimenov

A system of special signage for pedestrians made understandable for guests from the Heavenly Empire

New information boards, located in the Upper Town, Troitsky Suburbs, the Railway Station, Yakub Kolas Square, Nemiga Street and Nezavisimosti Avenue, now have information in Chinese. "The work to update these boards is almost complete. It will become easier for guests from China to find their way

in the Belarusian capital," notes Director of Minsk Information Tourist Centre, Yelena Plis.

At the end of last year, a section was created on the tourist portal minsktourism.by for Chinese tourists, where they can find all the necessary information about the sights of Minsk and the visa-free regime and watch a video clip about the city. In addition, advertising materials in Chinese have been published and excursions for tourist groups from China can be conducted only by certified excursion



Guests from the Heavenly Empire

guides. 2018 was announced as the Year of Tourism in China, with both sides aiming to co-operate in this area. For

the first time, the tourist potential of Minsk is to be presented at the tourism expo in Shanghai.

Collection not lost at prestigious exhibition

By Alexander Pimenov

Belarusian designers take part for the first time in the biggest international exhibition of fashion, shoes and accessories *Who's Next*, held in Paris

Who's Next is an event which brings together more than 200 of the world's leading designers, fashion experts and manufacturers and has become a trend setter of fashion for the next season. This year, Belarus was represented by the Zibra brand and its creators — Darina Koval and Alexandra Zhuk. The experts noted that this young and energetic duo, despite their age, showed a mature and professional collection.

The Belarusian Ambassador to France, Pavel Latushko, came to support the Belarusian designers, as did the Honorary Consul of Belarus in Marseilles, Fabrice Rault. According to Mr. Latushko, the participation of Belarusian designers in such a large fashion show confirms the presence of great potential for the development of Belarusian-French collaboration in light industry.

As part of the exhibition, the Belarusian Ambassador to France, Mr. Latushko, met with the show's Director, Aude Chabanier, to discuss the organisation of the Belarusian pavilion (featuring domestic designers) at *Who's Next*.

Online shopping gaining momentum

By Olga Pasiyak

Belarusians are more actively spending money on online purchases: 2.3 times more transactions were registered in 2017 compared to 2016

The number of online purchases has risen 1.8 times and each customer makes around 5 online purchases a year. Moreover, the average sum spent has increased by almost a third, to Br31. Yandex Kassa analysts have carefully studied the payments made by residents of Minsk, Brest, Grodno, Mogilev, Vitebsk and other cities to reach their conclusions.

The greatest Internet demand was seen for baby products (an almost 8-fold increase), cosmetics and perfumery (7 times) and items for sports and tourism (6.2-fold rise). An increasing number of Belarusians now buy spare parts and accessories for motor vehicles, food and books online, while clothes, footwear and accessories top the list. These are followed by books, souvenirs and items for hobbies. Interestingly, Belarusians spent around 40 percent more on online shopping last year than in 2016. Furthermore, as the study shows, the number of online shoppers has grown fastest in Borisov, which shows a 2.4-fold increase.



Death toll from eastern Taiwan earthquake has risen to sixteen

16 dead, 1 missing and 285 injured after magnitude 6.0 quake strikes eastern Taiwan's Hualien

Days after a large earthquake rattled buildings in Taiwan, firefighters continued to look through buildings that leaned after partially collapsing late last Tuesday night amid the violent shaking. The worst damage was seen in Hualien County, where multiple midsized buildings were heavily damaged.

The US Geological Survey said the tremor struck at 11:50pm local time at a depth of about 6

miles. The epicentre was located about 13 miles north-northeast of Hualien, Taiwan.

There were dozens of aftershocks in the hours that followed the main quake.

"At first it wasn't that big ... we get this sort of thing all the time and it's really nothing. But then it got really terrifying," Chen Minghui, a maintenance worker who had to be rescued from the basement of the hotel,

said. "It was really scary."

Fire department crews said that at least seven buildings collapsed. Officials shut down the Hualien Bridge and the Su-Hua Highway was temporarily closed due to a surface uplift on the roadway.

Multiple landslides that occurred along the Su-Hua Highway also contributed to its closure. Shelters have been opened, including a recently built base-

ball stadium, and residents were given hot food and beds. Evacuees said they were having trouble getting over the fear of additional damaging earthquakes.

"That fear is still there," Chen Chu-rong, 52, said. "I'm still afraid because things kept on falling down."

Taiwan is no stranger to large earthquakes. In 1999, more than 2,300 people died when a magnitude 7.6 tremor struck the island.



Czech court dismisses Prague's inadequate Air Quality Plan

A court in Prague has ruled the Czech government's air quality plan for the city fails to bring air pollution within European limits

The court recently called the plan laid out by the Czech Ministry of Environment in 2012 'too vague and unrealistic', according to the non-profit environmental law organisation ClientEarth. The municipal court ordered the plan to be canceled and drawn up again. Recently, the Czech

Republic was among the countries reprimanded by the European Commission for infringing on the agreed air pollution limits. The EU Commissioner for Environment, Karmenu Vella, had demanded the Eastern European member find a solution to their air quality problem within one week or face legal action. According to the European Air Quality Index, the Czech Republic falls among the countries with the worst air quality in the EU.

EHang 184 passenger drone makes its first public flight in China

The world's first passenger drone has made its first public flight in China, taking off from Guangzhou

With the newly developed EHang 184, all passengers need to do is to get into the small cabin and fasten their seat belts and the automated flight system then takes over.

"None of the traditional flying vehicles can achieve the goal of fully autonomous flying, so they are still far away from common people," EHang Chief Executive Officer Hu Huazhi said. "But our successful flight today means the

scenes that we used to only see in sci-fi movies are now very close to common people."

The electrically powered EHang 184 can carry a single passenger weighing up to 100kg for a 23-minute flight at sea level at a speed of 100kmh.

The company said the drone has been tested over 1,000 times and is designed to withstand moderate gales with winds of up to 50 kilometres per hour.

Last year the city of Dubai announced a plan to co-operate with EHang to develop self-flying taxis taking people across the city.



The man who launched a car towards Mars

"Apparently, there is a car in orbit around Earth," tweeted Elon Musk with a link to the live feed of the orbit with the sign 'Don't panic' on the car dashboard

It took him years to send his car with his rocket into space. 46-year-old Elon Musk is member of the so-called PayPal Mafia, the founders and former employees at PayPal. They are the most notorious group in Silicon Valley who founded, funded or led some of the world's biggest tech firms.

In 1999 he founded an online bank X.com, which later became PayPal. In 2002, the online auction eBay bought it for \$1.5bn. In the same year Musk founded Space Exploration Technologies, or Space X, to make more affordable rockets. In 2004, he became one of the major funders of Tesla Motors and in 2006 Tesla showed its first car, the Roadster.

Musk, who wants to colonise Mars, described the Falcon Heavy launch as 'it's kind of silly and fun, but I think that silly and fun things are important', Musk posted on his Instagram a photo of his note to aliens, with, 'Made on Earth by humans', imprinted on the circuit board.

UK fund sales hit record 63 billion pounds in 2017

Net retail sales of UK-based funds hit a record 63 billion pounds in 2017, asset manager trade body the Investment Association said

Members' funds under management ended the year at 1.2 trillion pounds, with fixed income funds the best-sellers after chalking up a record 14.3 billion pounds of net sales, it said.

A transnational list for 2019 and EU online shopping gets easier and cheaper

The European Parliament has come up with a plan to introduce a transnational list for the European elections in 2019. Supporters hope it will help combat the spread of euroscepticism across the continent.

MEPs are to vote on it in a plenary session in Strasbourg. Online shopping is to get easier and cheaper across the EU. The European Parliament has voted to lift geo-blocking on a raft of goods — making them easier to buy and at local prices. But the legislation does not cover everything — so not everyone is happy.

Materials prepared with aid of information agencies

‘My life is embodied on the canvases’

A painting exhibition by Leonid Shchemelev, dedicated to the artist’s 95th birthday, opens at the National Art Museum

By Veniamin Mikheev

The exhibition embodies Leonid Shchemelev’s 70 years of life in the arts: from post-war pupil to outstanding master of the 21st century, whose life is an example of extraordinary human and creative longevity and loyalty to his profession. The exhibition showcases more than fifty works from 1960-2000 from the collection of the National Art Museum, the Belarusian Union of Artists and the Museum of Minsk City History.

The Head of State, Alexander Lukashenko, congratulated the painter on his 95th birthday. “Significant achievements of the Belarusian school of painting are connected with your name. You have made a big contribution to the preservation, development and promotion of the best traditions of Belarusian fine art. Your paintings are an example of great mastery, and your professional and public activities are an example of selfless service to your country.” According to the Head of State, the artist’s contribution to the training of several generations of talented artists, who are the pride of the nation, deserves profound respect. Mr. Lukashenko wished Mr. Shchemelev strong health, many happy returns of the day, success and wellbeing.

Leonid Shchemelev is among those artists whose works occupy a significant place in the pictorial art of Belarus. His creativity is known as a chronicle of the age. In his works, Mr. Shchemelev glorifies Belarus by creating elevated and poetic images of his native land and its residents. Leading topics of his canvases are the heroic deeds of the nation in the years of the Great Patriotic War, hard-working men and the beauty of nature.

The painter was born on February 5th, 1923, in Vitebsk. After graduating from the Belarusian Theatre and Art Institute, he taught at Minsk Art College and the Republican Boarding School Specialising in Music and Fine Art. He was also a teacher at the Belarusian Polytechnic Institute’s Architectural Department. Leonid Shchemelev has been a participant of art exhibitions since 1958; his pictures have been on show in Canada, the USA, France, Italy, Israel, Finland, Germany, Austria and Spain. They have been purchased by famous galleries and museums. Of course, Mr. Shchemelev’s works are also present in the National Art Museum of Belarus and

in the Tretyakov Gallery in Moscow.

Life wasn’t easy for Leonid Shchemelev, as for many other painters of the older generation. His creative biography can be viewed as a reflection of the country’s history. The painter took part in the Great Patriotic War. Undoubtedly, these dramatic events influenced his creativity, affecting the emotional depth of his painting. “My life is embodied on the canvases. This is the history of my Homeland. This is memory as one of the most cherished ideas. These are people whom I love endlessly. This is nature without which I can’t exist,” noted Mr. Shchemelev.



Flowers for the hero of the day

such a delicate sphere as art, it’s important to pass it on. Of course, many know this famous master mainly for his numerous substantial pictures in which the author has expressed himself passionately. Today however, Leonid Shchemelev is presented in the centre of our publication as a painter who has given all his professional experience to the development of Belarusian pictorial culture, as a master whose influence on the creativity of many contemporary Belarusian painters is multi-faceted and fruitful. Our conversation with the famous artist was dedicated to this topic.

children and then at an art school, which I loved, but I left to pursue my own creativity. I really wanted to work at the institute, but the feeling wasn’t reciprocated.

Surely, not every painter can become a teacher. Much depends on their cultural and intellectual experience and their ability to pass on knowledge.

You’re right. It’s the only possible approach towards teaching art. A painter can’t just take the place of a teacher; they need to have an endless desire to teach. Pedagogic activity ties together our country and its culture. A teacher is like a creator, always opening something to reveal what lies beneath.

When a pupil breaks away from their teacher, it’s like breaking the past from the present. French pictorial art seems to have lost a great deal because of this.

You’re right that France has lost many of its traditions. French painters used to demonstrate love for their homeland through their art, encapsulating the spirit of all things. Their work now lacks this element.

To what degree are your current works contemporary and what elements from the past inspire you?

Art has its own attitude towards the world: what has been and what is. For example, I’m working on the 1812 war; when France attacked Russia, trying to perceive those events in a new way. Historical moments need to be understood; it’s at the core of everything. However, I’m also a contemporary person, more concerned about the present than the past. The past and future can be viewed in the light of modernity.

You have been visited by foreign guests. How do they perceive your works?

I’ve been visited by French, Turkish and American guests. I felt that they were aware of the national language and perceptions. Many people want to see what an artist produces, but I’m eager to see joyful creativity and to see how they reveal the essence of life.

So, you had the opportunity to compare sights with those of your homeland. How does Belarus differ and what do you think visitors notice most when arriving here for the first time?

Primarily, our countryside, as Belarus is covered in a whole system of pure spring lakes and a network of large and small rivers. These nourish nature, keeping the colours fresh. Colours don’t fade, they simply change with the seasons, remaining vivid.



Self-portrait of frontline soldier L. Shchemelev in the background

According to Boris Krepak, a researcher of Mr. Shchemelev’s creativity, none of his works are dictated by the ‘cold observation or lack personal faith and passion’. The painter’s pieces are distinguished by a freedom of style and expressiveness, while his portraits are unusual for their psychological depth and generosity of characteristics.

Leonid Shchemelev’s influence on the pictorial culture of Belarus in the second half of the 20th century is huge, and he has many pupils and followers.

When one boasts such considerable professional and life experience, even in

To what degree does the professional and creative growth of a young painter depend on their teacher?

Teachers should treat young artists seriously. I see teachers as understanding high culture, although they don’t need to be great painters themselves. They do need to understand the essence of art to help their pupils’ progress. Art is produced only by the most able.

Do you speak from experience?

Of course. I’m not speculating; I know this for sure. I always yearned to teach but it’s now too late, as it requires much effort. I once taught at a school for talented



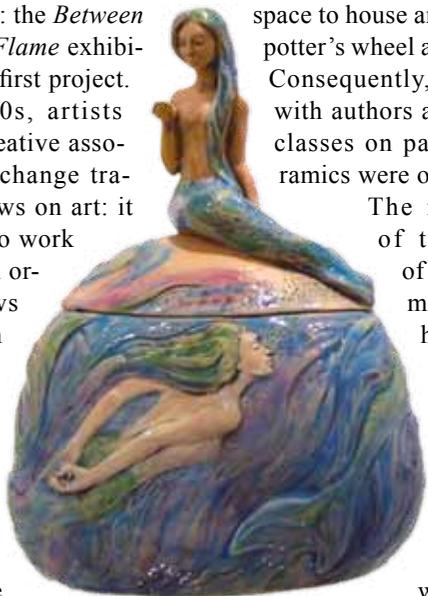
Opening of the exhibition attracts large attendance

Making people fall in love with artistic ceramics

It would be difficult to imagine a gathering with as many respected guests as those attending the exhibition of ceramics at the University of Culture Art Gallery in Minsk. A modest display, with just two small rooms, showcases works which are easy to understand even without the guides' comments. Moreover, the pieces are mostly small and not aimed at museum collections. However, the experienced masters of national art present at the show have been waiting a long time to see such examples of fine art.

By Irina Zavadskaya

The Belarusian Guild of Ceramists was registered in late 2017 and unites 28 artists. Some are from Minsk and remote areas of the country, but most are young — recently graduating from artistic universities. The Union of Artists calls them 'a guerrilla detachment': the *Between Hands and Flame* exhibition is their first project. In the 1980s, artists united in creative associations to change traditional views on art: it was easier to work together and organise shows — even though their approaches to their art differed greatly. The struggle for the



audience remains, but its methods are quite different. Our ceramists do not aim to shock, surprise or bring resonance to the viewer. On the contrary, they demonstrate pieces which would certainly appeal, inspiring viewers to create something similar. Sadly, the University of Culture doesn't have enough space to house an oven or a potter's wheel as a fixture. Consequently, meetings with authors and master classes on painting ceramics were organised.

The main aim of the Guild of Ceramists might look homely and unpretentious — like the clay pots with hot wine of-

ferred to visitors to the show. The leaflets read: 'We want to make people fall in love with ceramics'. The goals of this 'guerrilla detachment' are much more ambitious. The material they use is fragile and their dreams are the same. It's necessary to make people fall in love with ceramics, generating a habit among the public of commemorating events not with Chinese low-quality items but Belarusian-made souvenirs. People need to feel with their fingers the therapeutic warmth and malleability of clay (unsurprisingly, art therapy has become popular around the world). People's

workshops should start to be held countrywide, and ceramists should be helped to market themselves — including out-



side Belarus.

Exhibitions and festivals are the starting point; these events are aimed at tourists. Some of the ideas have already been discussed by ceramists with the Guild of Marketers. Over time, they plan to create a museum of ceramics to preserve

items of our monumental and decorative art from Soviet times which have not yet been fully destroyed by repair and reconstruction. There are also plans to revamp the Minsk Porcelain Factory which closed long ago; a new residential district is planned to be built on its site in the future.

It is expected that the plans will be well received, the Chair of the Guild of Ceramists — Svetlana Tsap — admits that these are currently just dreams. "Therefore, awakening a love of ceramics is our primary mission. When a person is in love, they are much more likely to go on interacting with the material," she notes.

Museum located in Usokhi agro-estate

By Olga Korneeva

Timber Museum opened in the Klichev District

The exhibition in the museum, open after refurbishment in the former rural school, includes more than fifty examples of various ancient items made from timber. They reflect the spirit of their time and show the traditional craftsmanship and way of life of people who lived in the Klichev District. Items have been collected from local residents and each

has its own unique history.

The Rural Museum of Timber in Usokhi Agro-estate initiative has been implemented as part of the *Support to Local Development in the Republic of Belarus* project, financed by the European Union and realised by the UNDP.

The initiative also envisages training locals to create items from timber, used in everyday life, the establishment of an ecological route in the village of Usokhi and excursions for children and young people.

Mogilev to welcome both tanks and punks

13th International Youth Theatre Forum M@rt.Contact, in Mogilev in March, to speak in experimental language

According to the Director of the Mogilev Drama Theatre, Andrey Novikov, 'last year, the forum's programme comprised almost half classical works, this year however, only three out of the 23 performances belong to the classical genre, while the remaining represent an experimental theatrical language...'

For example, the audience will be

able to see the *Medea. Episodes* opera, staged by St. Petersburg's Teatro Di Capua, featuring music from Vyborg's punk group *Poslednie Tanki V Parizhe (PTVP)*, as well as verses by the punk poet Lekha Nikonov.

As far as traditions are concerned, artistes from Moscow's Vakhtangov Theatre are also expected to perform *Crawfish Cry*, based on the work by the Canadian playwright John Murrell.

Master classes for young actors will be also held.

‘Grieving is not helpful: our task is to return to Fed Cup World Group’

The women’s tennis team of Belarus has sadly lost in the quarterfinals of the Fed Cup World Group to the Germans. The decisive doubles match was dramatic — like the previous confrontations. Arina Sobolenko, Lidia Morozova and captain Eduard Dubrov sum up the results of the performance against the German players during their meeting with journalists.



Alexandra Sasnovich lost to Antonia Lottner



Arina Sobolenko and Lidia Morozova

By Igor Grishin

Our question is to the girls. How long have you been training as a pair?

Arina Sobolenko: We’ve been together for probably all

the Federation Cups and I’ve often been often paired with Lidia. In my view, this match has shown that we play together well — we feel the game in the same way and share a mutual understanding.

Lidia played brilliantly as part of the pair. She performed well near the net and at the back. As regards Arina, there was an impression that she gained confidence only by the second set. Is this true?

Bronze earned at the World Cup

By Kirill Karin

Belarusian women’s indoor hockey team wins bronze medal at the World Cup in Berlin

In the match for third place, the Belarusians faced their rivals from Ukraine and won — 2:1.

The team, under the guidance of Herman Kruijs, started

the match carefully. In the 15th minute the Ukrainians realised a penalty, by Oksana Parkhomenko. Before the break, our girls equalised, with the experienced Yulia Kurganskaya making an exact throw. Marina Nikitina, of the Belarusian national squad, scored the decisive goal in the 33rd minute.

Belarus’ national indoor



women’s hockey team claimed their first bronze at the World Cup. Before this tournament, the team’s best result was

Arina Sobolenko: During the first few games, I felt very unwell and a little dizzy. The doctor helped me recover and I was able to restart the ‘fight’.

We’d like to ask the captain: what are you thinking about now, when the match is over?

Eduard Dubrov: Grieving is not helpful. Our task is to return to the World Group this year. Our next stage will be transitional: for the right to remain among the top eight. About doubles, we lack experience. In this case, the girls said that they had played a good deal and trained intensively. However, training is one aspect. We lack a top pair who visit tournaments. In our present case, we have one single player and one doubles player; the former is unable to play as well as those playing as part of doubles. A doubles player always expects certain actions from their partner. We lacked that. We should search for a good version of the team pair. In my view, the mistakes which emerged at a certain point were the result of fatigue. We also lacked something else. But there’s no need to be despairing: the result is quite good. Overall, I’m pleased with the team. I love our players: they are friendly, keen to play and improve themselves for the sake of winning. Nobody relaxes but pushes themselves to progress further.

Now, we only can wish good luck to our Belarusian tennis players in individual competitions and playoffs of the Fed Cup. Eduard Dubrov’s trainees will learn of their future rivals very soon. Slovakia, Italy, Spain, Romania and Australia could be among them. We are not expecting an easy life for them.



New starts lie ahead

The cold and windy conditions prevented a higher result, noted Belarusian biathlete Darya Domracheva after her performance in the 7.5km sprint at the Olympic Games in PyeongChang



Darya Domracheva

After the race, Darya Domracheva was ranked 9th, with two misses (one at each of the two firing ranges). Laura Dahlmeier of Germany — 21 minutes 06.2 seconds (0+0) — became Olympic champion, followed by Norwegian, Marte Olsbu, 24.2 seconds behind the winner (1+0) while bronze went to Veronika Vitkova of the Czech Republic, 25.8 seconds behind (0+1).

“The result is not the one I was hoping for. Wind and cold prevented me from performing more consistently; these factors were a great distraction,” said the Belarusian biathlete.

High competition standards



Marina Zuyeva

Ice-skater Marina Zuyeva shows her best personal result in the 3,000m distance at the Olympic Games in PyeongChang

Marina Zuyeva was placed 11th, posting a time of 4 minutes 05.96 seconds. It’s not easy from a psychological point of view for any athlete to start on the first day after the opening of the Olympiad. However, many leading athletes from around the world showed high results. Only slightly more than 1.5 seconds separated places from 6th to 11th. For Zuyeva her result — 4 minutes 05.96 seconds — is her personal record and the best result on lowland rinks.

Performance of the week



The legendary Nikulin Circus on Tsvetnoi Boulevard and the Belarusian State Circus present *Ice Fairy Show*

EXHIBITIONS

NATIONAL ART MUSEUM OF BELARUS

20 Lenin Street
Until 17th February. Leonid Shchemelev. Pictorial Art Until 20th February. Saints of the Undivided Church

NATIONAL HISTORY MUSEUM

12 Karl Marx Street
Until 17th February. Dungeons of Light
Until 18th February. Great Britain Until 25th February. Solar Height Until 25th February. Traditional Artistic Culture of Belarus

NATIONAL LIBRARY OF BELARUS

116 Nezavisimosti Avenue
Until 28th February. Exhibition of experiments: Science Museum Until 15th April. Fiodor Yastreb's Poetic Palette

MIKHAIL SAVITSKY ART GALLERY

15 Svobody Square
Until 25th February. Lev Borodulin: Legend of Sports Photography Until 4th March. Yan Rozental's Artistic School

LEONID SHHEMELEV CITY ART GALLERY

10 Revolyutsionnaya Street
Until 11th March. Familia

GALLERIA MINSK

9 Pobediteley Avenue
Until 4th March. 13th Wonder of the World
Permanent exposition of Experimental Science Museum: EXPERIMENTuS

MUSEUM OF BELARUSIAN CINEMA HISTORY

4 Sverdlov Street
Until 18th February. Special Photography

NATIONAL CENTRE OF CONTEMPORARY ARTS

3 Nekrasov Street
Until 17th February. Exhibition dedicated to 170th anniversary of French artist Paul Gauguin Until 24th February. Our Travel

NATIONAL CENTRE OF CONTEMPORARY ARTS

47 Nezavisimosti Avenue
Until 27th February. Table art project

UNIVERSITY OF CULTURE ART GALLERY

1 Oktyabrskaya Square
Until 21st February. Looking at Your House
Until 28th February. Marat Gadzhiev's Zunzul Chani

CHELYUSKINTSEV PARK OF CULTURE AND REST

84/1 Nezavisimosti Avenue
Until 30th June. Legacy of Belarus: Dedicated to Minsk's 950th Anniversary

REPUBLICAN SCIENTIFIC-TECHNICAL LIBRARY

7 Pobediteley Avenue
Until 28th February. Reserved Corners of Belarus: Vitebsk Region

TSENTRALNY

13 Nezavisimosti Avenue
Until 4th March. My Dear Native Land

THEATRES

NATIONAL ACADEMIC BOLSHOI OPERA AND BALLET THEATRE

1 Parizhskoy Kommuny Street
16.02. The Swan Lake 17.02. Iolanthe
18.02. The Swan Lake; Theatrical Carnival

BELARUSIAN STATE ACADEMIC MUSICAL THEATRE

44 Myasnikov Street
15.02. Ball in Savoy 16.02. A Thousand and One Nights 17.02. Pumyanke concert 18.02. The Flying Ship; Bridegrooms 19.02. Casanova 20.02. Blue Cameo 21.02. Once in Chicago 22.02. Cherry Orchid

MAXIM GORKY NATIONAL ACADEMIC DRAMA THEATRE

5 Volodarsky Street
15.02. Zoika's Flat 16.02. Lady for a Day
17.02. As If By Magic; An Ideal Husband
18.02. Woe from Wit 20.02. The Visit
21.02. Innkeeper 22.02. Red Hot Mamas

YANKA KUPALA NATIONAL ACADEMIC THEATRE

7 Engels Street
15.02. Not Mine 16.02. Art 17 and 18.02. Kolyady Night 18.02. Jeweller's Jubilee 20.02. Tyke 21.02. Inspector
22.02. Pan Tadeusz

YOUTH THEATRE

17 Kozlov Street
15.02. Dreamworks 16.02. The Fool
17.02. New Affair of My Husband
18.02. Tectonics of Feelings; Zhmurik
21.02. Man from Podolsk 22.02. Departing Nature; The Fool

BELARUSIAN STATE PUPPET THEATRE

20 Engels Street
15.02. Interview with Witches; PlaStforma Minsk-2018 16 and 17.02. Snow White
18.02. Pippi Longstocking 22.02. Silk

THEATRE-STUDIO OF FILM ACTORS

13 Pobediteley Avenue
15.02. An Unnamed Star 16.02. The Battlefield 18.02. Robbery at Midnight
19.02. Master and Margarita 20.02. The Makropoulos Case 21 and 22.02. Wolves and Sheep

REPUBLICAN THEATRE OF BELARUSIAN DRAMA

44 Kropotkin Street
15.02. Portrait 16.02. Grandfather
17.02. I'm Not Ashamed!; People's Love
18.02. Three Giselles 19.02. PlaStforma Minsk-2018; Night of Contemporary Choreography 20.02. Belarus. Didactics
21.02. The Broken Nest 22.02. Suffering from Common Sense

YOUNG SPECTATORS' THEATRE

26 Engels Street
15.02. Wings of My Youth
16.02. Savage Hunt of King Stakh
17.02. My Little Enchantress
18.02. Wolf and Seven Goats
22.02. Doctor Not Upon One's Own Will

MINSK CONCERT HALL

5 Oktyabrskaya Street
19.02. Adventurers Against Their Own Will
22.02. Behind Closed Door