

Russian Diplomat Makes Rare Visit

By WILL AREY
Staff Writer

The Russian Federation ambassador to the United States spoke on campus Wednesday about how relations between the two countries have improved and about an ongoing partnership between UNC and a top Russian university.

Yuri Ushakov, Russian ambassador to the United States since January 1999, spoke for about 30 minutes to a crowded audience in Carroll Hall.

In his talk, titled "U.S. - Russian Relations Before and After Sept. 11," Ushakov focused on the improved relations between the United States and Russia since the terrorist attacks. Ushakov said many Russians saw the attacks as a national tragedy of their own.

He identified Sept. 11 as a turning point between the two countries, and he empha-

sized that any discussions on the lasting implications of the Cold War were moot. "More than once in the past decade, the Cold War has been declared dead," he said. "The tragedies of Sept. 11 have put the Cold War forever in the past."

While Ushakov identified Russia as a main contributor and ally for the United States in its continuing war on terrorism, he said thought, not emotion, should be the guiding factor in any plan of action. "Our actions should not be guided by emotion, but should be closely guided by the U.N.," he said.

Ushakov said improved U.S. relations with Russia would promote greater cooperation on other fronts as well. He specifically mentioned the situation in Palestine as one in which both the United States and Russia could make a great impact.

"Russia and the U.S. were long plagued by ideological differences, but now we

both want peace and security," he said.

Ushakov spoke briefly about a partnership between UNC and the Moscow State University for International Relations. The institutional relationship, coordinated at UNC by Germanic languages Professor David Pike, has been in effect for four years.

Pike, an organizer of Ushakov's speech, said the agreement encourages interaction between the two schools and the two countries.

Pike identified Moscow State University as the "Russian Harvard" and said it was a great honor to have Ushakov speak at UNC. "This is a rare occasion," Pike said. "The ambassador rarely travels, so it is a wonderful distinction to have him visit UNC."

Ushakov, an alumnus of Moscow State University, also said being the Russian ambassador to the United States

is often a hectic, if not frustrating, job.

"Being Russian ambassador to the United States often resembles riding a roller coaster," he said. "There are continuous twists and turns, ups and downs, and the speed of the events is super-fast."

Ushakov's speech was sponsored by the Office of the Provost, the School of Journalism and Mass Communication and the University Center for International Studies.

Victoria Shields, an assistant to former UNC-system President Bill Friday, said she was interested in hearing the remarks of Ushakov because of his prominence.

"He's a high-level ambassador for Russia, a country putting itself back together," she said. "It could be a very important ally."

The University Editor can be reached at udesk@unc.edu.

Developments in the War on Terrorism

FBI Warns Agents of More Attacks

The FBI has quietly warned its agents nationwide of unconfirmed information from a captured senior al-Qaida official that terrorists may be planning attacks against supermarkets or shopping centers, law enforcement officials said Wednesday.



Fighting Erupts South of Kabul

Factional fighting erupted Wednesday in southern Afghanistan after one local police commander arrested another and locked him in a shipping container for five days, the provincial intelligence chief said.

No Anthrax Threat Found at Army Lab

Additional testing at Fort Detrick after an accidental leak of anthrax spores from a laboratory found no new areas of dangerous contamination, a post spokesman said. But the sampling did find a type of anthrax spores that can't cause the disease, he said.

Campus Calendar

Today

noon - The Office of the Provost invites you to meet with the architects from Polshek Partnership who are planning the Arts Common. Three members of the firm will be in the Pit until 1 p.m. Find out about the planning process and help shape the future of the Arts Common.

8 p.m. - Following tonight's production of "Twelve Angry Men," Company Carolina will be hosting a round-table discussion on the criminal court system with Raleigh lawyers Benji Taylor Jones and Bryan McGann from the law firm of Smith, Anderson,

go to dailytarheel.com

Teach-In Explores Israeli, Palestinian Conflict
By Eshanthi Ranasinghe

U.S. Officials to Push Colleges to Boost Graduation Rate
By Cleve R. Wootson, Jr.

Blount, Dorsett, Mitchell, & Jernigan, LLP. The show is in 203 Bingham Hall; student price is \$5, general public is \$8.

Friday

10 a.m. - The Orange County chapter of the American Red Cross' Bloodmobile will be at the School of Medicine's Berryhill Hall until 2:30 p.m. For an appointment, please e-mail Benny Joyner at Benny_joyner@unc.edu. Each donor receives a Chick-fil-A coupon and a Domino's coupon. Remember, every pint can save up to three lives!

8 p.m. - Pauper Players' spring musical, "Once Upon A Mattress," will take place today through Monday, April 29. Friday through Sunday performances are at 8 p.m., Monday performance is at 8:30 p.m. Tickets can be purchased in the Pit the week before show. This play is a musical version of the classic fairy tale "Princess and the Pea."

For the Record

In the April 24 article "Low Vote Count Stops Fee Increase," it was incorrectly reported that students voted 241 to 176 to raise the student activity fee to \$16.50.

Students voted to raise the student activity fee to \$16.50.

The Daily Tar Heel regrets the error.

The Daily Tar Heel

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Helms May Undergo Heart Surgery This Week

Sen. Jesse Helms' health problems have caused him to miss Senate sessions for the third time in two years.

The Associated Press

Sen. Jesse Helms will receive open-heart surgery at a Maryland hospital as early as this week to replace an artificial valve installed 10 years ago, his aides said.

The 80-year-old Republican will continue undergoing tests Wednesday at the National Naval Medical Center in Bethesda, Md., where he was admitted

Monday after feeling tired and weak over the weekend.

"He checked in several times throughout the day," Helms' Chief of Staff Jimmy Broughton said Tuesday. "He sounds just fine. He's not groggy or anything."

The worn-out valve is on the left side of his heart between the lower and upper chambers and pumps oxygenated blood into the rest of his body. The problem valve is the pig valve doctors used to replace Helms' mitral valve in 1992, Broughton said. The mortality rate from valve surgery generally ranges from 2 percent to 5 percent, said Alan Wasserman, a cardiologist and chairman of the

Department of Medicine at George Washington University, who isn't treating Helms. Helms could remain in the hospital a week or longer after the surgery and could spend weeks more recuperating.

Helms likely will choose between another tissue valve - taken from a pig - or a mechanical one, which is often risky because such valves require blood thinners to prevent blood clots. The downside to pig valves is that they wear out after 10 years, Wasserman said.

Helms was sent to the hospital after seeing the Senate physician Monday.

Helms, who plans to retire in January 2003 after 30 years in the Senate, has missed Senate business on two other

occasions in the past two years because of health problems. He was hospitalized in October 2000 after coming down with a serious case of pneumonia. And what aides described as "a bad head cold" kept Helms in Raleigh last December during the waning days of the Senate session. He then had fluid drained from his lungs.

The most recent public assessment by a doctor was released by his office in February 2001. At that time, Dr. John Eisold, the attending physician to Congress, pronounced Helms "in good health." Helms announced in August 2001 that his fifth term would be his last, citing a desire to spend more time with his family during his twilight years.

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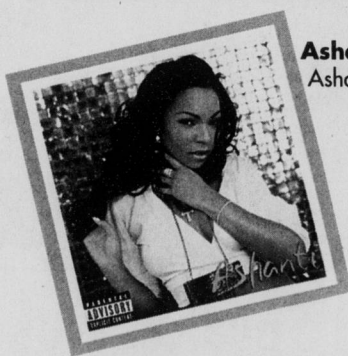


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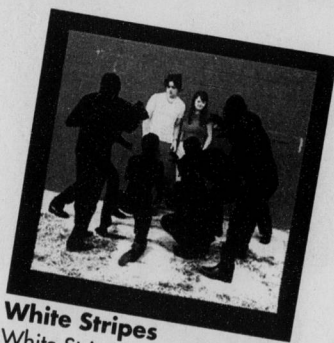
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