Subject: Ukraine unrest
Posted by Wayne Parham on Thu, 25 Nov 2004 11:19:20 GMT
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enko or Yanukovich?Bush or Gore?Who decides? What outside pressure is appropriate?I thought you all might want to see what is being said about this across the pond. So I've found some English language news reports from Russian websites.Pravda - Interference in the internal affairs of the CISThe Russia Journal - Kuchma discusses situation in Ukraine with EU and US officialsInterfax - Yushchenko's headquarters challenges election resultsInterfax - Putin congratulates Yanukovych on electionInterfax - Yushchenko supporters blocking international roads

Subject: The US, the EU, Canada . . .
Posted by elektratig on Thu, 25 Nov 2004 12:02:12 GMT
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and other countries have denounced the election as rigged. Since these countries rarely see eye to eye on anything these days, it's hard to avoid the conclusion that Yanukovych, or pro-Russian elements within Ukraine, stole the election.Whether a combination of international pressure and internal protest will be able to reverse the result, I can't say.In the spirit of the day, I'll avoid commenting on any suggestion that the situation compares in any way with Bush v. Gore. Happy Thanksgiving to all.

Subject: Yakov Smirnoff was the real winner
Posted by Wayne Parham on Thu, 25 Nov 2004 13:41:12 GMT
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I haven't followed these matters closely so I can't say for sure. It appears to me that media from both sides tend to be too propogandized, so I don't believe either one. It's kind of like how half the world denounced the Bush/Gore election and the other half believed it was fair.Besides, I hear most people did a write-in vote for Yakov Smirnoff, who was born in Odessa, Ukraine. I think the election was his and there was a conspiracy to cover it up.Yakov Smirnoff

Subject: Re: Ukraine unrest
Posted by Manualblock on Thu, 25 Nov 2004 13:42:55 GMT

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Now I get it! We can talk only if it does not include U.S. political scene. Yanukovych is a thug. He's backed by a stong arm wing of the hyper-industrialists from the east. Putin has to back him; they have the money and the means of production and are traditionally of Russian descent.

Subject: Re: Ukraine unrest
Posted by Wayne Parham on Thu, 25 Nov 2004 14:23:20 GMT
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Not me, I can't talk about any of 'em. I just thought people might find the articles from the other side interesting. Everybody I know backs Yushchenko, both on this side of the pond and over there. But as for me, I think Yakov Smirnoff had him hands down.Yakov Smirnoff

Subject: Score One for the Good Guys
Posted by elektratig on Sat, 27 Nov 2004 13:49:44 GMT
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The Ukraine parliament has reportedly declared the election invalid.
 CNN Report

Subject: Re: Score One for the Good Guys
Posted by Wayne Parham on Sat, 27 Nov 2004 18:07:21 GMT
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It's interesting to watch, isn't it?More news from across the pond:Yushchenko, Yanukovych supporters urge broad dialogueUkrainian speaker suggests invalidating election outcomeUkraine parliament declares poll results invalid

Subject: Re: Ukraine unrest
Posted by paper trail on Sun, 28 Nov 2004 17:23:54 GMT
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Pravda is run by ultra left American expatriates these days. It isn't the same as the old Soviet run newspaper. It is even more left wing and anti-American than it was under the USSR.

Subject: Re: Ukraine unrest
Posted by Wayne Parham on Sun, 28 Nov 2004 18:23:06 GMT
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Very true.

Subject: Nature of the fraud in Ukraine
Posted by elektratig on Sun, 28 Nov 2004 20:54:06 GMT
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Attached is an article describing some of the fraud and violence that occured. It begins:"It was 5.30pm on election day in Ukraine when the thugs in masks arrived armed with rubber truncheons."Vitaly Kizima, an election monitor at Zhovtneve in Ukraine's Sumy region, watched in horror as 30 men in tracksuits stormed into the village polling station.'"They started to beat voters and election officials, trying to push through towards the ballot boxes,' he told The Telegraph."'People's faces were cut from blows to the head. There was blood all over.'"
London Telegraph Article

Subject: Re: Nature of the fraud in Ukraine
Posted by Wayne Parham on Sun, 28 Nov 2004 21:22:14 GMT
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I'm leery of the media on both sides of the issue. I posted some pro-Yanukovich links, because I think most people here hadn't seen it. But it is clearly one-sided, as are the pro-Yushchenko media reports. In my opinion, this is a Ukrainian issue that affects Ukraininan citizens, so I'm listening to people that live there and judging by their impressions.
Post from Yury, who lives in Kiev
