

No. 3127

SINCE 1992

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MARCH 18-20, 2005 WEEKEND

# The Moscow Times



## Governors Facing a Struggle for Their Jobs

Demonstrations and petitions urge President Vladimir Putin to dismiss four regional leaders.

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## Chubais Survives Roadside Ambush

By Anatoly Medetsky

STAFF WRITER

his personal security a day earlier in anticipation of being targeted.

He also said he knew who had ordered the attack, but refused to elaborate. "I want them to be caught, and you want me to tell you [their names]," Chubais told a packed news confer-

tricity monopoly Unified Energy Systems, which he is trying to privatize. He is also a leader of the liberal Union of Right Forces political party.

"The main thing I can say today is that I will work twice as hard on everything I have been doing to reform the

a.m. as Chubais was traveling along a tree-lined road from his country house in Zhavoronki to Minskoye Shosse, a major highway that leads to Moscow from the west, Moscow region police said. Chubais' BMW was accompanied by a Mercedes-Benz SUV.

has never missed a chance to point out inconsistencies or mistakes. He was quite displeased with the first Russian biography, "The World and the Gift of Nabokov" by Boris Nosik, a writer and journalist living in Paris. The book, despite approaching Nabokov with awe and respect, was indeed rather imaginative and bordered on fiction in its treatment of facts.

In 2003, Dmitry Nabokov sued the Nezavisimaya Gazeta publishing house for the book "Nabokov on Nabokov," compiled by scholar Nikolai Melnikov. Nabokov Jr. accused Melnikov and his publishers of slandering his father and breaking copyright laws. A mutually satisfactory decision was never reached.

Now another scandal is brewing. Dmitry Nabokov is suing Anatoly Livry, a Russian emigre scholar and writer based in Paris. Livry has achieved some critical acclaim for his publications in Russian literary journals. He has allegedly written a scholarly study, "Nabokov the Nietzschean," which Nabokov's estate is trying to ban. A brief investigation into the scandal revealed a heap of wild accusations from both sides. Suffice it to say that Livry has called Dmitry Nabokov "a small Oedipus still struggling with his father's shadow," while Nabokov has described Livry as a hardened criminal who once planned to kill and dismember his ex-wife and her lesbian lover.

Luckily, Russians have paid little attention to this. With all of Nabokov's books and Brian Boyd's excellent biography now available from the Symposium publishing house, they can savor the author's life and works instead.

VICTOR SONKIN