

Baker

Continued from Page 1. conference cosponsored by the United States and the Soviet Union, said the officials, who spoke on the condition of anonymity. An announcement is expected Wednesday, after Baker confers with President Bush at the White House.

The trip to Moscow will be centered on a 35-nation human rights conference that opens Tuesday and runs through Oct. 4. Baker is expected to spend three days at the meeting and to hold talks with the new Soviet foreign minister, Boris Pankin. The country is in the midst of

changes that Gorbachev said Monday put it "on the brink of catastrophe." He has urged the national Congress to approve a reorganization plan that he worked out with leaders of 10 republics. The prospects for U.S. aid are apt to be high on Baker's agenda.

Jordan

Continued from Page 1. worked with day in and day out for seven years.

"I've never seen a professional staff of the quality of the one I worked with and who Dr. Thomas works with now," Jordan said. "All the way up and down the line, the vice presidents, secretaries, etc., were unusually excellent and became good friends."

Roger Williams, assistant vice president and executive director of University relations said he enjoyed working with Jordan. "I liked him quite a bit and I thought he did tremendous things for Penn State," Williams said.

Currently Jordan spends his time

conducting research jointly with two university presidents and a retired university president.

The group was asked to perform a nine-month study of the University of North Carolina — a 16-campus institution — to determine where it's going in terms of its educational activity.

Jordan completed a much shorter study for Arizona State University and has also offered consulting services to the new president of the University of South Carolina.

His professional responsibilities do not end here. Jordan was made chairman of the board of the Austin Lyric Company in Austin, which

he was proud to say performs three major productions a year, and he's working on a presentation concerning the Knight Commission for a College Boards seminar in California.

In the midst of all of his current responsibilities, Jordan did find time to vacation in Scandinavia and Leningrad with his wife Jonelle.

"We had never been to Russia before. The thing we noticed the most was the great relaxing of security and attention. We found it to be a fairly relaxed place," he said.

Jordan added that other leisure activities include spending time with his family.

Thomas

Continued from Page 1. "Building has been a major item and will continue to be because lack of space represents such a terrible need," he said.

Thomas said his administration has also improved undergraduate education. The five initiatives outlined in his spring address are being established, he said.

Additional funding has been provided to support undergraduate participation in research, Thomas said, adding that he thinks this participation is essential to undergraduate education.

Other initiatives aimed at improving undergraduate education include focusing more on students who want to take part in Truman, Rhodes and Marshall scholarship programs by placing a staff member in charge of advising and preparing the stu-

dents to take on these leadership roles. "I think with this additional assistance and mentoring our students will do better and will qualify for these scholarships," Thomas said.

Awards given to faculty members for outstanding teaching were also increased to "give additional encouragement to improve teaching methods," he said.

A new program, effective this year, will reward faculty members on a competitive basis for projects aimed at improving teaching, Thomas said.

For faculty members who carry a heavy teaching load, funding has been allotted for a new research assistance program.

"I feel very strongly that some scholarly activity enhances the quality of their teaching, and those carrying heavy teaching loads have dif-

ficulty getting support for their research through external agencies," Thomas said.

Thomas said he had hoped the University would have been able to do more in these areas.

"We weren't able to give nearly as much attention to these items as I wanted to because the budget was so tight," he said.

"We have a wide range of new initiatives which are not funded at a high level at this time, but we hope as funds become available to enhance them," he added.

The administration will work on several other goals including improving the structure of the commonwealth educational system, and continuing the search for qualified candidates for two senior vice president positions.

Changes



AP LaserPhoto

Russian Federation President Boris Yeltsin and Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev participate in a special session of the Congress of People's Deputies in the Kremlin. Yeltsin criticized Gorbachev at yesterday's session for failing to foresee last month's coup and urged independence for republics that want it.

Continued from Page 1. stop being deputies several days after the Union Treaty is signed, as you cannot be a deputy in a non-existent country."

Gorbachev acknowledged some could find fault with the proposals. But he emphasized that the proposals were for "transitional organs."

"Let me tell you, the West is watching," Gorbachev said. "If we are able to coordinate, unite within the new forms, find new structures, new people, the West will support us."

Pumping his fist and jabbing the air to accentuate his speech, the Soviet president also tried to blunt objections from hard-liners that the new

government structures he had proposed represented "almost as another coup."

Gorbachev said he was acting to save the country.

A few hours before Gorbachev addressed the Congress, Yeltsin took the podium to harshly criticize the Soviet president for failing to foresee the coup attempt last month.

Yeltsin also pledged the Russian republic would be an "equal among equals."

"The Russian state, which has chosen democracy and freedom, will never be an empire or big or little brother," he declared.

Yeltsin said the new union should be "a free commonwealth of sov-

ereign states based on coexistence of various forms of interstate relations."

"Indeed there may be independent republics which insist on a confederation, and on a federation and on an associated membership and on an economic union," Yeltsin said. "And yet, they must all be within some sort of one, new single system."

As the republics move toward independence, some world leaders have worried about control over the Soviet nuclear arsenal. Yeltsin, in an interview with CNN, offered assurances that Russia was moving to secure them.

He said nuclear weapons are being moved from the Ukraine.

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