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11:00 a.m. 308 Rudder Hosteling across Europe
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Soviet situation could be 'Bloody Thursday'

Continued from page 1

enforce his decree.

He also has placed all Moscow police units under the command of the Ministry of Interior, removing them from control of the liberal-dominated Moscow city government.

The leader of the liberal demonstrators has said his group will defy the Gorbachev ban, but will avoid confrontation with security forces.

The danger is that the conservatives might be determined to seize any pretext for "teaching the liberals a lesson," and might force a confrontation whether the liberals want it or not.

The demonstrators on Bloody Sunday were not seeking confrontation either.

Liberal and conservative factions within the Soviet Union have been moving toward a showdown for some time.

The rapid sweeping aside in 1989 of communist governments and privileged bureaucracies in Eastern Europe shocked their Soviet counterparts.

It appears that the conservatives became convinced that there can be no co-existence with liberals, no peaceful competition within a pluralistic political system.

Since mid-1990, the conservatives — Communist party loyalists, privileged bureaucrats, the senior military leadership, the KGB and the Ministry of Interior security forces — have mounted an all-out drive to eliminate liberal elements from power positions within the Soviet political arena.

The surprise resignation by Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze during a public speech to the Congress of People's Deputies on Dec. 20 was the most visible departure by a high-ranking liberal, but Shevardnadze has had plenty of company.

Other key liberal officials who have been forced out of government jobs within the last six to eight months include:

☐ Alexandr Yakolev, a former Politburo member, who along with Shevardnadze and Mikhail Gorbachev, was one of the original architects of *perestroika;*

☐ Nikolai Petrakov and Stanislav Shatalin, the man who developed the plan to introduce a market economy in the Soviet Union;

☐ Vadim Bakatin, former head of the Ministry of Interior who opposed the use of security forces to quell public demonstration;

☐ and key Boris Yeltsin supporters like Grigori Yavlinsky, former Deputy Prime Minister of the Russian Republic, and Rusla Khazbulatov, former deputy leader of the Russian Parliament.

Today, Boris Yeltsin is the last liberal politician holding a political office of national influence.

Conservatives like Marshal Sergi Akhromeyev, the former Soviet armed forces chief of staff, say Yeltsin is an "anti-socialist separatist" who must be removed from office.

Yeltsin in return "declared war" on Gorbachev and the conservatives in a nationally televised speech Feb. 18, calling for Gorbachev's immediate resignation.

Yeltsin's call was echoed by more than 200,000 demonstators who took to the streets March 10.

Athletes helping troubled youth in B-CS

Continued from page 1

Athletes Involved. He and Kent Petty, a quarterback for the Aggies, spoke to the young men.

"It was amazing," Moore said. "The boys' attention spans are usually about five minutes, and when (Petty and Smith) started talking it was kind of awkward," Moore said. "But then they started asking just real basic questions like 'What do you do if someone asks you to go to the movies and you're studying?'"

Smith said he and Petty just tried to relate some of their past experiences in high school.

"We started off by talking about sports," Smith said. "Then we were soon talking about school, drug and alcohol abuse, and other things."

Moore said the boys look up to athletes because many aspire to be athletes themselves.

"They idolize these guys," Moore said. "You have a bunch of adolescent boys who don't want to show it, and these guys were just great. It was the power of who they were and getting the message across."

Hoffman said Aggie Athletes Involved began because there was no community service organization on campus in which athletes could become involved that would be sensitive to their varying and sometimes restrictive schedules.

"They could get involved in organizations already established, but these organizations are not really understanding to the responsiblities and commitments althletes have," Hoffman said.

"Athletes are definitely under time constraints that an average student would not be," she said. "That is why this organization was created."

Cain Council, a part of the Resident Hall Association, is the only community service organization recognized by the University which is composed mainly of athletes, Hoffman said.

"It is only for male athletes that live in the dorms," Hoffman said.

Hoffman said Aggie Athletes Involved is made up of athletes from men's and women's sports. She said although the membership is small —about 14 or 15 members — Aggie Athletes Involved hopes to eventually have athletes from every sport become involved.

Smith said the organization is talking to principals of elementary and secondary schools to possibly set up activities between the students and athletes.

One program the group is hoping to set up is called "Breakfast with Champions," where students can dine and talk with athletes.

Hoffman said Aggie Athletes Involved is still in its intial stages of development, and is in the process of obtaining official recognition from the University.

Smith said because of the athletes' busy schedules, off-season athletes will be more active in the program during given times, in order to ease the pressure on other members.

Jason Marshall, a shortstop for the A&M baseball team, will take over the position of president when football season begins in the fall.

Hoffman said a positive message for school-age children is more effective when it comes from people the children look to as role models.

"I would compare it to a movie star giving a message," Hoffman said. "Athletes have status or prestige because of how society glorifies sports.

"The message coming from any ordinary person would still be the same," she said. "But somehow hearing it from someone with status — such as an athlete — gives the message better reception."

Persons interested in contacting Aggie Athletes Involved can call Hoffman at 845-0280.

Student wins trip to Japan by winning contest

Continued from page 3

ment will have its first tenure-track of a Japanese faculty member who will be in charge of developing the program, he said.

"With the development of the Koriyama campus and this new program, there is definitely a future for the development of Japanese, Chinese and other languages," Arizpe said.

Arizpe said the modern languages departments, along with business and engineering, is offering intense language courses.

"With the internationality of the campus, the Department of Modern Languages is destined to play a major role," Arizpe said.

Zaidi said they are trying to introduce more Japanese culture and so the modern languages is arranging more seminars in cooperation with the Japanese consultant.

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