Nation

Reagan and Haig underline tougher foreign policy — President Reagan promised "swift and effective retribution" for any attacks on overseas American government employees as he welcomed home the 52 freed hostages Tuesday at the White House. Secretary of State Alexander Haig yesterday, in his first press conference, pledged a tighter US foreign policy stance by hinting at the threat of US military force in dealing with international crises.

Oil deregulated — President Ronald Reagan signed a bill yesterday to decontrol all domestic oil effective immediately. You will be paying one to three cents a gallon more for all petroleum products today as a result of this action.

US R&D may increase under Reagan — An annual forecast of research-and-development expenditures by Battelle Columbus Laboratories anticipates "the new Administration's posture relative to business and industry may provide an atmosphere more conducive to industrial R & D."

State

Proposition 2 1/2 to cause cutbacks in local services — The effect of a lowered property tax for Massachusetts residents may be a one-third reduction of Boston firefighters and a one-quarter reduction of Boston police officers, according to the commissioners of city fire and police departments. Governor King's proposed budget will be of little immediate relief for localities, but state aid is expected in the near future.

Weather

Today will be the last day of pleasantly warm weather for New England. Generally cloudy today with a chance of some occasional flurries. Highs 30-35. A cold frontal passage will bring brisk winds tonight and chilly temperatures in the upper teens. For Friday, sunny, windy, and cold, with highs only 24-28. Lows Friday night 16-17 and continued brassy. Chance of snow 50 percent today, 10 percent tomorrow.

By Ivan Fong

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By James Franklin

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