World

South Africa holds tough — Soviet leader Leonid I. Brezhnev, in a speech delivered after a parade marking the 50th anniversary of the Bolshevik Revolution, renewed the Soviet Union's commitments to support the Afrikaner and warned that "a crushing retaliatory strike" awaited any provocations, also said that "Our might and vigilance will cool, I think, as hot heads of some imperialist politicians."

Nation

Columbia countdown begins — Countdown, fourth fifth flight of the space shuttle Columbia began smoothly at Cape Canaveral, Fla., Sunday. The countdown still continued last night despite a problem with a redundant bilion regulator. The shuttle will lift off Thursday on its first operational flight, a mission which will include two commercial communications satellites. Among the four shuttle joint US-Soviet space flights in 1975, Marine Col. Robert Over, the pilot; and William Lenoir and Joseph Allen, mission specialists, who will oversee the satellite operations. Mr. Lenoir and Mr. Allen are scheduled to perform on Sunday the first space walks in the shuttle program and the first by US astronaut in nearly nine years. The Columbia is to land at dawn on Tuesday at Edwards Air Force Base in California.

Weather

Cold, with a decent amount of sunshine and a brisk breeze today. High about 50. Mostly clear and chilly tonight, with wind about 50. Mainly clear and chilly tonight, with wind about 50. High today 44 to 48. A cold front just passed through the area, and now a high pressure system will be pushing into the region. This will cause temperatures to be a bit below normal for the next two or three days.

Marc Lichtenberg

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