Two American planes shot down over Lebanon — Syrian forces shot down two US jets during an air strike on Syrian positions yesterday, and an artillery barrage by Syrian-backed milita later in the day killed eight Marines and wounded two in the Marine compound in Beirut. US Navy ships opened fire on the Druze positions following the attack. The downed planes were two of 28 fighter bombers in an American air strike made in retaliation for anti-aircraft fire directed at two US reconnaissance planes Saturday. One airman parachuted to safety and Syria captured two others, the Pentagon said. Unconfirmed reports say one of those two later died. President Reagan warned that the Navy will carry out similar missions if attacks on US forces continue. Syria, meanwhile, reported two of its soldiers were killed and 10 were wounded as a result of the American raid.

Arafat will leave Tripoli under United Nations flag — The Security Council of the United Nations has granted Yasser Arafat’s request that the United Nations flag be flown on the ships evacuating approximately 4000 of his Palestine Liberation Organization fighters from Lebanon. The fighters loyal to Arafat are expected to evacuate their besieged positions in Tripoli within a few days. Arafat noted for the flag to obtain safe conduct out of the port, near which Israeli and Syrian ships are stationed.

Unemployment down in November — The national jobless rate dropped from 8.9 to 8.2 percent last month, reaching the lowest level since January 1982. The labor force increased by 740,000 during the month. The decrease is seen by economists as another indication that economic recovery is proceeding at a healthy pace. Massachusetts re-

port 6.6 percent unemployment, the lowest rate among the 10 industriestates. Despite the improvements nationally, unemployment remains high in industrial states such as Michigan, Ohio, and Pennsylvania, where it stayed above 10 percent.

Weather

Cloudy, rainy, and cool — Today will be cloudy with showers likely and highs in the upper 40s. It will become windy tomorrow with a chance of showers. Thursday should be fair, but rain or snow may move in Friday. Temperatures will be in the middle 30s to middle 40s throughout the week.

Paul Duchnowski