News Roundup

World

Saudi share information from AWACS planes — Kuwaiti foreign minister Sheik Sabah Ahmed Sabah told a news conference Monday that Saudi Arabia has been providing its Persian Gulf allies with data received by US-supplied radar planes. According to Sabah, information regarding the Iraq-Iraq war gathered by Airborne Warning and Control Systems aircraft has been shared with members of the Gulf Cooperation Council, which includes Qatar, Oman, Bahrain, and the United Arab Emirates as well as Kuwait and Saudi Arabia.

Over half of Japanese youngsters fall chopstick test — A survey made by Japan's Ministry of Education last month showed that only 48.4 percent of elementary school students could correctly use Anshu, or Japanese chopsticks. Analysts have suggested various possible causes for the decline in this basic skill, including the growing Western influence of knives and forks and an educational system which over-emphasizes test-taking ability. Whatever the reason, both Anshu-training courses and training chopsticks with finger loops have become hot business in recent months.

Nation

New England governors set acid rain limits — The governors of Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, Vermont, New Hampshire, and Maine voted unanimously Monday to place a ceiling on sulfur dioxide emissions by utilities and industry. The proposed ceiling would freeze emission limits at the level averaged between 1979 and 1982. Since most acid rain in New England is thought to originate with pollution from outside the region, the limit is a political move more than a solution, according to the governors; they also proposed bringing a multimillion-dollar lawsuit against coal-burning utility plants in the Midwest.

Local

Flynn prepares for rental fight — Boston mayor Raymond L. Flynn is preparing to present a package to the Boston City Council which would uphold his campaign commitment to protect Boston's rental housing stock. The proposal, which faces tough opposition from real estate interests, would more than quadruple units subject to rent control from the current 20,000 to approximately half of all Boston rental housing, and require a permit before any rental unit could be demolished or converted to condominiums.

Kendall station modernization begins — Construction work on the Red Line subway stop at Kendall Square has started, closing a short section of Main Street between Ames and Wadsworth Streets to motor vehicles. Subway traffic will continue through the 60-year-old station as the $13.2 million modernization project lengthens the platform to accommodate longer trains.

Weather

Just about right — Today will be mostly sunny and breezy, with highs 78 to 82 and low humidity. Weather will be clear and cool tonight; lows will drop to high 50s. Thursday's weather will be similarly pleasant. Those traveling to Cape Cod or Maine this weekend should find highs in the 70s and lows in the 50s, with a slight possibility of rain Saturday.

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