World

Gorbachev considers American summit visit

Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev is prepared to come to Washington for a summit meeting sometime between March and June of next year, provided that enough progress on arms control is made in the interim.

President Reagan had noted in his television address earlier this week that Gorbachev had not announced plans at the weekend summit in Iceland to visit the United States, as was agreed at the Geneva meetings.

The Kremlin was not prepared to offer new promises, either on the Strategic Defense Initiative or reducing offensive strategic arms, a Soviet diplomat reported.

The Soviets feel that Washington must make the next move, since their proposals at the summit were rejected by Reagan, in an attempt to hold on to SDI.

The diplomat did, however, indicate possible adjustments on the part of the Soviets to their Iceland stance on the two "new" arms issues. Areas open for negotiation included how many and what kinds of tests could be performed outside the laboratory, rather than banning all tests. This would be contingent upon American agreement not to withdraw from the Antiballistic-Missile Treaty of 1972 for 12 years, rather than the 10 proposed at Reykjavik, and that deployment of the advanced weapons systems would not be automatic but subject to agreement.

Soviet officials are awaiting Congressional elections in November, possible moves by Congress to cut funding for missile defense, and West German elections in January before attending another summit meeting, the diplomat said. Gorbachev would prefer to wait several months before attending another summit, he continued. (The Boston Globe)

National

House approves budget plan

The Senate is expected to consider today the half-trillion dollar spending bill approved by the House Wednesday night. Some lawmakers have criticized the bill, calling it too large, but Congress is trying to adjourn so that lawmakers can return to their constituencies for campaigning.

Some members have criticized the bill, stating that it is too large. However, Congress is trying to adjourn so that lawmakers can return to their constituencies for campaigning. (AP)

Local

Court rules against Problem Pregnancy

The Massachusetts Supreme Court ruled yesterday that an anti-abortion group in Worcester may not use the trademark "PP" because these are the initials of Planned Parenthood. Problem Pregnancy opened up an office next door to a Planned Parenthood building and put up the "PP" initials on its door. Some women seeking abortion information entered the Problem Pregnancy office by mistake, mislabeled Planned Parenthood claimed. (AP)

Boston doctors isolate anti-cancer gene

Scientists have identified a gene that appears to prevent new eye and bone tumors, and may lead to methods to treat more common forms of cancer. The gene guards against the rare cancers when present in a subject, according to Thaddeus Dreyer, of the Massachusetts Eye and Ear Infirmary. (AP)

AIDS victim reinstated at work

A 33-year-old victim of the Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome will return to his job as a line man with New England Telephone as part of the settlement in a $1.5 million suit, not be fired. A spokesman of Boston's Dorchester section declined to say whether the 13-year employee will receive back pay. (AP)

Weather

Dull weather ahead

The next few days will feature little change in temperature, as we are locked into a slow-moving weather pattern. In a day or so, the clouds will start to disperse, and the weather starting Sunday will be clear but dull.


Thursday: Overcast, more showers possible. Low 45° (7°C).

Christmas Eve: Rain possible in the morning, clearing towards evening. High 55° (12°C).

Saturday night: Clear and cool. Low in the 30s - 40s (°C to freezing).

Extended Forecast: Overcast Christmas Day; Sunny Sunday and cold, with a high near 70 (°F) on Sunday, 60° (°C) on Monday.

Forecast by John Nielsen

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National

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