Soviet soldiers escape from East Germany

Two Soviet soldiers fled out of East Germany to freedom, the West German border patrol reported yesterday. According to border officials, the two soldiers slipped over the border so fast that East German guards had no time to shoot to stop them. (AP)

West German anti-nuclear protesters hold Christmas-season demonstration

In keeping with the spirit of the season, many of the 300 anti-nuclear protesters in West Germany on Sunday dressed as Santa Claus. They blockaded the gates to a nuclear power plant. The peaceful demonstration included placing symbolic “gifts with nuclear waste” into a large paper-mâché boot. (AP)

Weather

Cold and wet

After a morning bout with wintry weather, we will see warmer and wetter conditions arrive in the Boston area. This warm front will be short-lived, however, as a cold front will make its return on Wednesday night.

Today: Morning snow and mixed precipitation will change to rain by early afternoon. There will be possible accumulation of 1-2 inches of snow before the change. Temperatures will rise throughout the day to reach 35-40°F (2-5°C) by evening. Winds will become southerly at 10-15 mph (16-24 kph).

Tonight: Rain will continue and could be heavy at times. Temperatures will rise into the 40s (10-15°C) while winds shift to become southerly at 15-20 mph (24-32 kph).

Wednesday: Rain on and off, then clearing and colder. Morning high temperatures will be 45-50°F (7-10°C). Winds becoming brisk from the northwest.

Thursday: Partly sunny and cold. High near 35°F (2°C).

Forecast by Robert X. Black

Compiled by Robert Adams

NATION

Reagan will not fire Regan or Casey

President Reagan said on Friday that he will not fire White House Chief of Staff Donald Regan or CIA Director William Casey, saying he told Regan late Friday, said, “There’s no truth to it, either the quote or anything else. There’s just no truth to it.” The uncharacteristic personal statement by Reagan was made because of the scurrility of the Washington Post report, Howard said. (AP)

Testaverde wins Heisman Trophy

University of Miami quarterback Vinny Testaverde was named the winner of the 1986 Heisman Trophy in New York on Saturday night. Christopher J. Adams ’87, holder of MIT’s mug, according to a relative of one of the wounded. Police did not comment on the motive. (AP)

SPORTS

Shultz testifies in Congressional hearing on Iran arms deal

“My role was zero” in sending arms profits to contra rebels, said US Secretary of State George P. Shultz PhD ’49 at a Congressional hearing yesterday. He defended Reagan, however, calling him a “freedom fighter” and saying, “I stand with President Reagan.” But Shultz also repeated Reagan’s working statement that “mistakes were made” in the decision to seek contact with Iranian moderates. (AP)

Dog is possible motive for mass murder in California

Six people were killed and two wounded in an Oakland, CA, house yesterday after two people killed in the house and started shooting. The deaths were a result of an argument over a dog, according to a relative of one of the wounded. Police did not comment on the motive. (AP)

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