US denies hostage negotiations

The Bush Administration is letting it be known that no high-level US officials are involved in hostage negotiations. The denials come amid reports of recent talks involving contacts with Iran. White House spokesman Marlin L. Fitzwater said many people, including relatives of the hostages in Lebanon, may be involved in talks. But, he said, none of these individuals represent the US government.

Disbanding of contras urged

US Rep. David R. Obey (D-WI), who chairs a House subcommittee that controls foreign aid, has demanded that the contras be disbanded immediately. The Bush Administration has said there is no reason to continue the rebel war in Nicaragua, now that opposition leader Violeta Barrios de Chamorro has been named Sandinista leader Daniel Ortega's successor. The United States will set a deadline for dismantling the rebel group. US officials are currently in Honduras for talks on the matter. Chamorro has promised amnesty for the US-backed contra rebels. And in neighboring Honduras, the contras have vowed they will press on with their arms to Chamorro's National Opposition Union.

Lead poisoning in children widespread, study finds

The Environmental Defense Fund has released a report showing that about half the children in older, Northeastern cities have unacceptable levels of lead in their blood streams. The report estimates that 69 percent of Boston children, 57,000 boys and girls between the ages of six months and five years, have lead levels above the level of concern. This figure places Boston third behind New York and Newark, NJ, on a list of 38 areas with populations of at least one million. Virtually all of the poison is attributed to lead paint still found in older houses. But the report is based on estimates and uses a lower level of lead than in current government standards. Senators Joseph I. Lieberman (D-CT) and John H. Chafee (R-RI) have also called for study. White House Task Substances Subcommittee on Thursday. They will be examining the extent of the lead poisoning problem and the response of the federal government.

State agencies argue against budget cutbacks

The fiscal 1991 budget proposal submitted by Gov. Michael S. Dukakis came under fire from a number of directions yesterday. State prosecutors and the heads of state social service agencies complained to legislative committees that the governor's $12.6 billion spending proposal is too lean to let them do their jobs. The commissioners of mental health and mental retardation told the Human Services Committee that the proposal is too lean to let them do their jobs. State prosecutors and the heads of state social service agencies complained to legislative committees that the governor's $12.6 billion spending proposal is too lean to let them do their jobs. The commissioners of mental health and mental retardation told the Human Services Committee that the proposal is too lean to let them do their jobs. The commissioners of mental health and mental retardation told the Human Services Committee that the proposal is too lean to let them do their jobs.

Soviet old guard falters at polls

In national elections held Sunday, a few high-level US officials are involved in hostage negotiations. The three-year study minute, low-tech, no-cost technique could improve America's education at the college level. The level of concern. The UN Scientific, Educational, and Cultural Organization opened an international conference in Thailand yesterday with literacy at the top of its agenda. The head of the agency questioned how much the UN can advance when a billion people cannot read.

American soldiers involved in Panamanian drug ring

A cocaine smuggling ring involving US soldiers and Colombian suppliers was broken up recently in Panama, CBS News reported yesterday. The network, citing unidentified military sources; said at least seven Colombians and one American have been arrested. One official confirmed that he recruited soldiers to smuggle cocaine aboard military flights to the United States and said they paid up to $100,000 for doing so, according to CBS. Officials are looking into the possibility that Friday's grenade attack on a Panama City disco was connected to the breakdown of the smuggling ring. One US soldier was killed in the attack, which also left 15 other Americans servicemen and 12 Panamanians wounded.

College basketball star Gathers dies after collapsing on court

The death of basketball star Hank Gathers, who as a junior became only the second National Collegiate Athlete Association player to lead the nation in scoring and rebounding in one season, has left his Loyola Marymount teammates in shock. Gathers, who was 23 years old, died Sunday evening after collapsing on the court.

Raye to direct Patriot offensiv e

The New England Patriots have named Jimmy Raye their new offensive coordinator and quarterback coach. Raye has spent most of his 13-year coaching career with the Atlanta Falcons. He played quarterback for Michigan State in college and also played defensive back for the Philadelphia Eagles briefly before turning to coaching. Raye began his coaching career with San Francisco in 1977 and then spent two seasons coaching offensive backs in Detroit. He joined the Falcons coaching staff as receivers coach in 1980. He spent the 1984 season on the Los Angeles Rams coaching staff and two seasons with Tampa Bay in 1985 and 1986 before returning to Atlanta.

Weather

Compiled by Linda D‘Angelo

Tuesday afternoon: A strong cold front will continue to clear the way for the return of sunshine. High temperatures will be in the upper 70s to lower 80s.

Wednesday: A cold front will pass through in the afternoon. The day will begin with some sunshine before clouds move in. High temperatures will be in the lower 70s.

Thursday: A weak cold front will move through in the afternoon. High temperatures will be in the lower 70s.

Friday: A cold front will move through in the afternoon. High temperatures will be in the lower 70s.

Saturday: A cold front will move through in the afternoon. High temperatures will be in the lower 70s.

Sunday: A cold front will move through in the afternoon. High temperatures will be in the lower 70s.

Forecasted by Michael J. Hess

In the shorter range... As a low pressure system moves over the eastern portion of the country continues to bring rainfall to that region, the weather in New England will be determined by a high pressure system in northeastern Canada. This high, which has been responsible for the dry spell for the past two weeks, will continue to bring cold and clear weather into our region for the rest of the week. The high pressure system will strengthen, increasing the chance of clear skies.

In the longer range... As the cold front continues to move eastward, temperatures will remain below normal. High temperatures will be in the low 50s, while low temperatures will be in the low 30s.