

# Storms Ravage Northwest

A series of storms ravaged the Pacific Northwest with gale-force winds and rain, triggering mudslides and flooding that killed at least four people. Rising temperatures compounded the problem by melting snow to create avalanches.

Worried homeowners in the San Francisco area, still haunted by the January mudslides that killed 37 people, jammed switchboards Monday with calls to authorities seeking information on evacuations as rain fell for a third straight day.

"Everything is stable right now," said a California Highway Patrol spokesman in Santa Cruz County. "But the ground can't take too much more water."

The storms have dumped up to 10 inches of rain in the past five days. They set off snow and mudslides in Washington, burying a highway worker who had been clearing debris.

Avalanche and flood warnings were issued as rapidly rising temperatures melted more than 3 feet of snow that accumulated in mountain areas since last Wednesday. Roads littered with rocks and muddy debris were closed.

Gale and flood warnings were in effect for the coast of Oregon and Northern California. Heavy rain and winds gusting to 65 mph swamped the Oregon coast where more than 8 inches of rain has fallen.

Heavy rains pounded northern California and the National Weather Service predicted another 4 inches of rain in the saturated area. Minor flooding and landslides were reported.

"Right now it's kind of a wait and see proposition," a state's Emergency Services Department spokeswoman

Monday and flood warnings were in effect for the Snoqualmie and upper Cowlitz rivers, among others.

The rain-swollen Salmon River in Idaho was clogged by an icejam and backed up into part of the town of Salmon, flooding City Hall and several businesses and homes.

The Gulf Coast also was doused with up to 3 inches of rain from southeast Texas to Florida. Some street flooding was reported in Beaumont, Texas.

Elsewhere, the Northeast had mostly cloudy weather with temperatures in the 40s, the Southern Atlantic Coast warmed into the 70s and southern Florida hit the 80s. Mild temperatures and mostly cloudy skies covered the Southwest.

El Dorado, Calif., authorities looked in vain for the body of Ronald Gonzales Jr., 5, who slipped into the South Fork of the American River Sunday while playing around rainslicked rocks during a camping trip.

"He was laughing and dancing around on those slippery rocks," said Benito Davila, 10, one of several boys who saw Ronald fall into the river. "We kept telling him to stop, but he just laughed. Then he fell and he was crying and then he was just gone."

Nevada County officials reported Donald Morales, 32, Yuba City, Calif., drowned while trying to rescue three teenage boys Monday from the torrid waters of Deer Creek, 35 miles north of Sacramento.

Authorities said one of the boys, Steve Pate, swam to safety while his brother, David, was rescued. The third boy, Mike Davis Gentry, 14, was still missing today.

In Chicago, where temperatures warmed Monday

# College Officials Say: Reagan Cuts Would Hurt College Opportunities

PHILADELPHIA (UPI) — President Reagan's proposed \$1.7 billion budget cut in aid for higher education spells "a shameful retreat from equality of opportunity," say the leaders from 14 eastern Pennsylvania colleges and universities.

"The result will be a dramatic curtailment of access to college," said Sheldon Hackney, president of the University of Pennsylvania.

"This is not only a shameful retreat from equality of opportunity, but an unwise disinvestment in the future of our country," he said. "(This is) a catastrophic step backward."

Hackney said Reagan's proposals would mean cuts of 9 percent in the four major student aid programs in the next academic year and 47

percent the following year.

Presidents and deans from 14 colleges and universities in the Philadelphia area formed a coalition Monday to protest the proposed cut in federal aid to higher education. Many of them will go to Washington March 3 to tell the Pennsylvania congressional delegation of their objections, Hackney said.

John Pittenger, dean of Rutgers-Camden, N.J., Law School, said his school's low tuition masks the real \$6,000-a-year cost of each student's enrollment. He said the cuts would eliminate 70 percent of their student aid budget.

"Not only law, but medical and doctoral students, could only be drawn from the upper middle class," Pittenger said. "I think that's terrible for the country."

Agreed Herman R. Bran-

# Auto Sales Hit 21-Year-Low

DETROIT (UPI) — Auto sales have plunged to their lowest level in more than two decades and another 6,000 autoworkers face indefinite layoffs, indicating even huge rebates aren't enough to entice Americans to buy new cars.

Local United Auto Workers union leaders were meeting in Detroit today to review a proposed contract with Ford Motor Co.

The contract, calling for union wage and benefit concessions in return for better job security, is expected to be

was a .4 percent decrease in its daily rate levels from the 78,674 sold in the same period last year.

Ford, which followed GM's lead and is offering rebates of \$750 to \$2,000 on selected models, reported sales for the period down 14.8 percent. Ford sold 33,824 cars versus 35,294 last year.

Chrysler, which has offered rebates on its cars since the beginning of the year, reported sales of 16,384, down 4 percent on a daily-rate basis from 15,241 last year. Chrysler's sales for the year

son, president of predominantly black Lincoln University: "It will be a disaster, a holocaust for us. I deal with students whose parents are losing their jobs. We have been promised that it will not affect us, but we can't believe that it will not."

Marvin Wachman, president of Temple University, said, "The effect (of the budget cuts) on the students in the low and middle income group will mean fewer students. Tuition for next year is already going up."

"The president's priorities are way off base," he said. "We'll take a smaller tax decrease — a tax increase — to make a stronger country."

The Rev. John N. Driscoll, president of Villanova University, said none of the university and college leaders could find an alternative.

"We support the president's efforts to stabilize the economy, but these budget cuts will have a long-range impact on the economy," he said.

The presidents of Rosemont College and Widener College said tuition could increase as much as 35 percent if the cuts go through.

Drexel University President William P. Hagerly said 70 percent of Drexel's freshman class get an average of \$3,000 each in aid.

"Once you get these students into the system, you're really obliged to see them through," Hagerly said.

Other colleges involved in the coalition include Bryn Mawr, Philadelphia College of Art, Haverford, Community College of Philadelphia, Swarthmore, and La Salle.

# First Lady Talks With Drug Users

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. (UPI) — Nancy Reagan's voice choked with emotion as she told teenage drug abusers and their mothers and fathers there is "nothing as painful for parents" as to see their child hurt by drug abuse.

Mrs. Reagan, on a two-state tour of drug programs, spoke after an emotional, confession-filled session at Straight Inc., a controversial effort that tries to wean teenagers off drugs through behavior modification.

Today she was to fly to Texas to visit Texans' War Against Drugs, an anti-drug committee, and meet Richardson Families in Action, a suburban Dallas parents group.

Monday night, teenager after teenager stood up in a huge auditorium to tell Mrs. Reagan of their experiences with drugs ranging from cocaine to insecticide. She listened for several hours to the children and their parents describe what drugs did to their lives. Several broke down as they spoke.

Mrs. Reagan, wearing a black Chanel-style suit and red blouse, stood up and spoke to the 1,000 people in the sign-decorated, flag-bedecked auditorium.

"I'm so proud of you and I love you, too," the first lady told the teenagers, who were mainly white and clean-cut, who described themselves as "druggies."

Turning to their parents, the first lady said, "Being a parent myself, I know how painful it must be for you ..." Her voice caught and she paused. "There's nothing as awful for a parent, nothing as painful for a parent, as to have something happen to their child," she said.

The crowd applauded her loudly and a teenage boy and girl presented her with a valentine. She hugged and kissed them.

"We feel like you are not only the first mother of the land, but also a member of our family," Miller Newton, Straight's executive director, told her.

The Straight program, a privately funded effort patterned after Alcoholics Anonymous, enrolls teenagers for an average of eight months. For their first several weeks they spend 12 hours a day at the center, and are given more time off as they make progress.

In January, the American

Civil Liberties Union filed suit against Straight's Georgia branch, saying five teenagers were being held there against their will. The ACLU is now trying to work out an out-of-court settlement under which an independent panel would monitor complaints about the program.

Some critics say the program uses brain-washing techniques to indoctrinate teenagers, but Carlton Turner, White House drug policy adviser, said a Canadian expert recently studied the program and cleared it of such charges.

The Straight meeting began with patriotic song singing and a question and answer session between the teenagers and Mrs. Reagan.

"How many of you were high at the dinner table and your parents didn't know?" Mrs. Reagan asked the 300 teenagers.

Almost every hand went up.

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