

news digest

By The Associated Press

French landslides

Nice, France—An increasing number of landslides are threatening some of the most beautiful and expensive real estate in the world - on the French Riviera from Cannes to the Italian border. Unusually heavy rains on the magnificent French seaside slopes are blamed for touching off earth movements that have damaged houses and apartment buildings and cut off highway and railroad traffic. "You would be overstating the case to say Villefranche is about to tumble into the Mediterranean," Nice University geology professor Philippe Mangin said of one Riviera city. "But the fact is there are an unbelievable number of private and multiple dwellings whose walls and foundations have become fissured in the last few months."

Carter plan

Washington—President Carter's energy plan probably will include an initial, standby tax increase of five cents a gallon on gasoline and is sure to call for even heavier taxes on domestically produced crude oil, congressional and administration sources said Wednesday. While details of the President's energy proposals are still being worked out, the package clearly will mean that Americans who use energy excessively will pay a heavy penalty, mostly through added taxes.

Among the proposals likely to be sent to Congress on April 20 are:

—A gasoline tax increase starting at five cents, and rising another 10 cents annually in the second and third years of the program. It would be imposed only if U.S. consumption fails to decline, a possibility not considered likely by Carter's energy advisers. The current federal tax is four cents per gallon.

—A so-called "gas guzzler" tax starting at \$412 on new cars which use gas inefficiently. It could go as high as \$2,500 for the purchase of each new car.

—A tax of several dollars per barrel on crude oil produced in the United States. Its purpose is to gradually lift the price of domestic oil to that charged by Middle Eastern nations and other foreign producers.

Order in the court

Omaha—Faustino "Mexican Frank" Selvera, accused of participating in an Omaha drug conspiracy, was forcibly removed from Federal Court Wednesday after he jumped to his feet, shouting, during testimony of a former heroin dealer-turned government agent. "Lock me up. . . I can't listen to that kind of crap. . . Take me to a cell," Selvera shouted. U.S. District Court Judge Albert Schatz ordered deputies to take Selvera to the U.S. Marshal's office. During the trial's opening day Tuesday, Selvera had been cautioned by Schatz after making audible remarks, and the judge warned earlier Wednesday that Selvera would be locked up if there were more outbursts.

Less time off?

If the Legislature wants to make sure that those convicted of first-degree murder serve a definite number of years in jail, it will have to restrict time off for good behavior that such a convict can receive, the state Justice Department said Wednesday. The department issued a clarification of an opinion given to Omaha Sen. Ernest Chambers that said the Legislature could restrict parole for capital offenders. Chambers' LB64 abolishes capital punishment and includes an amendment requiring a 30-year sentence with no parole. Chambers asked if a 45-year sentence with a requirement that the offender serve two-thirds of the time would guarantee 30 years in prison.

Love finishes four-year project

A four-year-old sign installation project at Love Library is nearly finished, according to Dean Waddel, assistant dean of libraries.

The red plastic signs with white letters are informational and directional signs, Waddel said.

For example, the signs may direct library users to the information desks or microfilm service areas or post library hours at the entrances, he said.

The first stage of the project was begun in spring 1973. Later, after reexamining the proposals of this stage, a second stage was introduced, he said.

The Love Library addition required a third stage of sign installation, and a fourth stage was caused by changes in collections locations, Waddel said.

There are no more planned stages, he added, but additional signs may be needed in the stacks and the older part of the library.

Later, other signs may be added to the library system, he said, such as C.Y. Thompson Library on East Campus.

Waddel said the project cost about \$6,000. He added that the figure might be "a little on the high side."

"Our funding is not the same type of funding as the Nebraska Union's," he said. "It is basically tax support."

The Nebraska Union is considering placing about \$10,500 worth of signs in the building, Union Director Al Bennett had originally proposed spending about \$35,000, but the Union Advisory Board has recommended spending less.

Union signs would be paid for from a bond reserve account subsidized by student fees as mandated by the bonds. Donations covered about \$2,000 of the project's cost, he explained.

"I'm fairly positive that some of it came from (NU) Foundation Funds," he said. Unless specified, foundation funds can be used for any purpose within the library, he said.

East Campus hosts Western games

The UNL East Campus will be a playground of fun and games Monday for the final day of Western Week.

The annual Western Week Games will begin at 3 p.m., north of the Tractor Testing Laboratory, according to Dale Grosbach, a junior animal science major and recreation chairman for the East Union Program Council.

That night, the Great Plains Room of the Nebraska East Union will be filled with the sounds of the Midwest Ramblers, a bluegrass band from Lincoln, during the annual free dance that will wrap up the series of special events.

Western Week was kicked off last weekend at the Nebraska State Fairgrounds as the University of Nebraska

Rodeo Association hosted its intercollegiate rodeo and the Block and Bridle Club hosted its Quarter Horse Show and Big Red Beef Progress Show.

The delay between those events and Monday's activities, "which nobody is happy about," was caused by several scheduling problems with Easter, Grosbach said.

Western Week Games feature team and individual competition in both men's and women's divisions in arm wrestling, a tug-of-war, pyramid building, a Volkswagen race and a wheelbarrow race, Grosbach said.

Traveling trophies will be presented to winning teams, composed of living units, he said, and individual trophies will be awarded to the man and woman champion in each event.

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