Hurricane season makes expert wary

United Press International
MIAMI — The six-month
hurricane season opened Tuesday and weather officials say 60 million coastal residents may be in for disaster because they ignore evacuation warnings and live in poorly constructed dwell-

Dr. Neil Frank, head of the National Hurricane Center, said the problem is compounded because most of the residents of the hurricane-prone Atlantic and Gulf coasts have never experienced a major hurricane and are not sufficiently wary of the force of nature's most deadly

phenomenon.
Frank said many people are either unprepared or geographically unable to evacuate in

A behavioral study by a Miami engineering firm, as part of a comprehensive evacuation plan for Dade and three other counties, bears out his fears.

The survey showed more than one out of every four people living near the south Florida coast would defy orders to evacuate their homes in the face of an approaching hurricane.

Frank also foresees problems in getting out people who want to leave. Many coastal areas have no effective evacuation plans. A hurricane slamming into

the U.S. mainland is more deadly than either a tornado or an earthquake. The prospect of one occurring this year, Frank said, makes him very nervous. Inadequate construction is a great concern.

We know how they (coastal buildings) were engineered but not how they were built," Frank said. "I think most of the big ones will survive but you just don't know how they were built so you can't say with 100 percent

assurance they will survive." An average of two major storms hit the U.S. coast every three years. With more and more buildings and people along the coastline, the peril increases during the June 1 to Nov. 30 storm season of season

Derailment may pollute water supply

COLONIAL HEIGHTS, Va. - A fire in a burning fuel tank ar was brought under control Tuesday and state health auhorities said another derailed sar may contaminate a town's water supply.

of wreckage from the 28-car decailment of a Seaboard Coast Lines train Monday 50 yards from an elementary school, an official said. 'Most of the vehicles have left

and they're clearing the tracks," said Marvin Clipp, principal of North Elementary School. The fire was brought under

control about 4 a.m., Clipp said, adding that school would be open Tuesday.

He said officials, concerned hat one end of a fuel tank car nay have spilled fuel into a trioutary of the creek from a oridge, still were testing water rom Swift Creek. The car is langling over a railroad bridge.

The creek feeds the Appomattox River upstream from where Hopewell draws its water

upply.

The car loaded with jet fuel additive exploded when the train derailed Amtrak's main East Coast artery hortly after I p.m. Monday.

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"I have been told we could save 10,000 lives a year if people would wear seat belts," Frank America's greatest natural dissaid. "But they don't. And we could save lives if people paid attention to our (hurricane) warnings, but they don't."

About 15,000 people have

proved to be the costliest storm when it devastasted Mobile, Ala., and adjacent coastal areas

Nixon predicts Reagan win

United Press International NEW YORK — Former

President Richard Nixon predicts Ronald Reagan will win re-election in 1984, defeating Sen. Edward Kennedy, who, he says, is burdened by a 1960s mentality and needs to lose 20 pounds.

In an interview with CBS **Evening News correspondent**

there was no way the Democrats would nominate former Vice President Walter Mondale because he is "just a warmed-over Carter.'

If he chooses to run, Nixon said, Reagan would win because he has kept his prom-

He said by 1984 Reagan

will say, "I promised that I was going to cut taxes and l have

"He will have cut taxes, he will have cut inflation, he will have cut government spend-ing and he will have cut unemployment," the former president said.

Kennedy, Nixon said, must do a number of things before

he can seek the nomination "He's got to lose pounds," Nixon said. "Hea has got to enter the '80s rate than the '60s. He's got w some new ideas.

Asked how smart the predent is, Nixon replied, "Man smarter than his critics la Design exas Te rosbyton given him credit for."

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