

nation

Strike pact may mean fare hike

United Press International
NEW YORK — Relieved New Yorkers — able to ride buses and subways Monday for the first weekday rush hour in almost two weeks — might have to help pay for the transit strike settlement with a 10- to 15-cent fare hike.

The city's 11-day transit strike ended Friday night with word that the Metropolitan Transportation Au-

thority reached agreement with striking unions on a two-year contract that calls for a 20 percent wage increase and cost-of-living adjustments over the life of the pact.

Richard Ravitch, MTA chairman, said the accord will cost the state agency an estimated \$180 million. He said the city's 50-cent fare could go up 10 or 15 cents.

Mayor Edward Koch, who

opposed the settlement because he believes similar increases will be sought by municipal unions in their upcoming contract talks, said it will cost \$271.4 million.

Whatever the cost, it will be added to the MTA's deficit, estimated at \$250 million to \$331 million for fiscal 1980-81.

Beginning Monday, taxicab riders begin paying fare increases of up to

27 percent. The boost increases the initial cost of a ride from 90 cents to \$1 and from 10 cents for each additional one-seventh of a mile to 10 cents for each additional one-ninth of a mile.

Koch said the wage settlement for 33,600 transit workers will fuel the wage demands of 238,000 city workers, whose contracts expire June 30.

Late winter storm causes havoc

United Press International
POISONOUS snakes wriggled through river-like New Orleans streets in the aftermath of a weekend of torrential rains and tornadoes were blamed in the deaths of eight persons in the South. Winter-like conditions hit the nation's midsection.

Parts of the Midwest woke up Monday to a surprise spring snow storm. As much as 4 inches of slushy snow fell in parts of Missouri, Illinois and Indiana. The National Weather Service predicted wet snow mixed with sleet and rain for Iowa, Wisconsin and Illinois and travelers advisories were posted for the areas.

Winter wouldn't release its grip on Arkansas and Oklahoma, either, where temperatures plunged to the upper 20s and lower 30s. Oklahoma City's 27-degree reading early Monday broke a 23-year old record.

In Louisiana hundreds prepared to flee their homes Monday in what

officials labeled the state's worst flooding in two years. Floodwaters were receding in parts of metropolitan New Orleans, but residents found it impossible to navigate their way to work through parts of the city because of high water.

Sandbagging operations continued in low-lying subdivisions near the Pearl River, which was expected to crest at near 20-feet — the same level reached two weeks ago, when hundreds of residents evacuated their homes. The area last week was declared a federal disaster area from the April 2 floods.

At least two persons drowned in

separate boating accidents in New Orleans floodwaters Sunday and three other died in traffic accidents caused by the weather, authorities said.

Extensive flooding in Mobile, Ala., was blamed for at least one death, a youngster who was swept into a drainage ditch by the raging waters.

Winds clocked at 102 mph raked the Mississippi Gulf Coast, causing an estimated \$10 million in property damage. Two persons died in flood-related accidents and at least four others were injured.

Math a problem for women

United Press International
DENVER — Women do not do as well as men in advanced mathematics classes in high schools, but it is not because they lack the mental skills of men, a national study said Monday.

The study by the Education Commission of the States said females beginning their high school years do as well as, or better than, males. But by the 12th grade the males have surpassed females in many mathematics skills.

These advanced mathematics skills are crucial if women are to enter careers in traditionally male-dominated science and technology fields.

Contrary to other research, the commission's Women in Mathematics study said there is no evidence females do not have the mental ability of men to do well in mathematics.

The study called for programs

in high school to increase the citation of mathematics by females and stress the needs of math in future careers.

The study said there are other reasons that males do better than females in the higher mathematics:

- Stereotypes that lead women to believe mathematics is a "male domain."
- Career and education aspirations.
- Encouragement or lack of it by parents, teachers, peers and school counselors.

The commission study disputed findings in some other reports that females do not have the skill in spatial visualization that males do. Spatial visualization, a key to success in mathematics, is the ability to visualize shapes and mentally move or rotate them.

The Women in Mathematics study said 13-year-old girls do better than boys of the same age in spatial visualization and do as well as boys in the 12th grade.

"Spatial visualization has been viewed as a barrier to women's success in mathematics," the study said.

The 13-year-old girls were better than boys at computation and nearly equal in problem-solving skills.

"By the end of high school the situation has changed," the study said.

Boys in the 12th grade were better at problem-solving and were equal in computation and spatial visualization.

"However, the hypothesis that males' superior achievement in mathematics is due to a superior ability in spatial visualization, not supported by the results of this study," the report said.

Reporters' rights face test this week

United Press International
FREEHOLD, N.J. — New Jersey's law protecting reporters' rights faces its first test this week, with a defense attorney in the trial of four reputed mobsters asking a local reporter to surrender letters she received from a key prosecution witness.

A hearing on the attorney's request was scheduled for Monday before Monmouth County Superior Court Judge Michael Imbriani.

The test of the state shield law was prompted when Robin Goldstein, a reporter for The Daily Register of Shrewsbury, refused to give defense attorney Miles Feinstein letters she received from a government informant, Patrick Pizuto.

Pizuto originally agreed to appear as a prosecution witness against

Feinstein's client, Anthony DeVingo, in return for a reduced sentence on pending murder charges.

He reneged on the deal just prior to the start of the trial last month, and his status as a witness remains in doubt.

In the trial, prosecutors hope to prove for the first time the existence of a nationwide organized crime syndicate. The defendants are charged with a variety of offenses, including murder, loansharking, extortion and conspiracy.

Feinstein subpoenaed Goldstein in an attempt to obtain information to discredit Pizuto, whose testimony is considered crucial to the case against DeVingo.

Goldstein, citing her First Amendment rights, refused to comply with the subpoena, setting up the

court test of the state shield law signed into law in February.

Under the statute, Feinstein must prove the material is relevant to the client's defense, and that the information contained in the letters is not found elsewhere.

Then the judge must read the letters in private and decide whether to admit them as evidence before Feinstein can be ordered to comply with the subpoena.

Imbriani has called the upcoming hearing "chapter two of the Farber case," a reference to the New York Times reporter who was in 1978 after he refused to turn notes on Dr. Mario J. Casalevich, acquitted of murder charges and celebrated "Doctor X" case.

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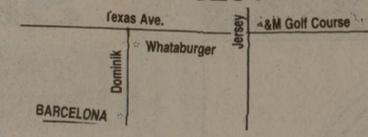
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300 aliens riot along border

United Press International
SAN YSIDRO, Calif. — U.S. Border Patrolmen teargassed a crowd of 300 Mexican aliens who crossed the border and pelted them with rocks for more than an hour, patrolmen said Monday.

The outbreak along a half-mile stretch of the U.S.-Mexico border the second time in less than a month that tear gas was used to restore order, border officials said.

None of the six agents involved was seriously injured, but a few suffered eye irritation when some tear gas blew back toward them. Don Cameron, chief of the Vista Border Patrol sector.

"These attacks on our men are organized," Cameron said. "We are not getting any help from Mexican authorities along the border in dealing with the problem."

Border patrolmen first used tear gas April 8 when aliens tried to cross the border on the north side of the Tia Juana River with logs and logs. About 60 aliens were routed back across the border to the instance.

"About 300 of the aliens fled across the border by 3:30 a.m. the others took up positions on the south levee."

Cameron also disclosed the similar attack on two agents about two weeks ago in the Field area of Otay Mesa.

"Two of our agents were overrun by about 200 illegals," he said. "It was a pretty scary incident."