

ONLINE www.azstarnet.com

Arizona Daily Star

50¢
One dollar
in Mexico

SERVING TUCSON SINCE 1877 · FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2002

Cats win, move into 1st-place tie
Sports



CALIENTE 12-PAGE MOVIE PULLOUT

COLLATERAL DAMAGE
Arnold is back with plenty of explosions

Plus Monster's Ball, Big Fat Liar and more

Airport searches bring groping complaints
Page A7

Tucson Water bills may increase by 4.3%

By Joe Burchell
PHILADELPHIA TIMES

Tucson Water officials have proposed a financial plan for next year that will require a 4.3 percent average rate increase starting in October.

If approved, it will be the third consecutive year for a water rate hike, and the sixth increase in eight years.

How the increase will affect specific customers hasn't been determined.

Deputy Water Director Martin Paezthree said no analysis will be done of how the increase should be distributed between different classes of customers until after the City Council approves a financial plan.

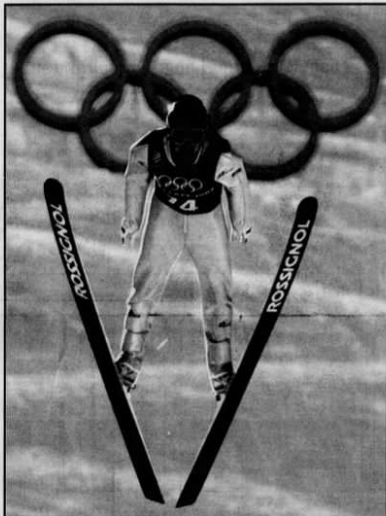
Last year, when the council approved a similar rate increase, half of the utility's customers saw bill decreases.

Most of the increase was collected from users of large volumes of water, who saw increases in the 20 percent range, and from those who use the least water because they had to start paying for some water previously included in the \$5.50-a-month basic service charge.

Paezthree said there are plans to completely eliminate "free" water from the basic service.

SEE WATER / A13

Let the (guarded) Games begin!



Sven Hannawald of Germany practices for the K100 individual ski jump at Park City's Olympic Park.



A U.S. National Guardsman checks an entrant to Soldier Hollow, the venue for the Olympic nordic events.



U.S. Army Sgt. Brian Bentley stands guard over a venue at Deer Valley.

Time, channel
6 p.m. NBC, Channel 4

Events
Opening ceremonies, ski jumping

As the world turns its attention to the XIX Winter Olympics in Utah, an unprecedented 10,000-member security force has been deployed to patrol Olympic grounds and the skis above.

Despite security concerns, 25,000 spectators will witness the opening ceremonies, which President Bush and U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan are scheduled to attend. **More in Sports.**

Carmona could be surgeon general

By Joe Salchow
ARIZONA DAILY STAR

Tucson trauma surgeon Dr. Richard Carmona is a candidate to become the next U.S. surgeon general.

Carmona, a Pima County sheriff's deputy and SWAT team member known for his high-profile heroics, said he's been contacted by the White House about the post-Surgeon General David Satcher's four-year term ends Wednesday, and he already has accepted a new position at Morehouse College in Atlanta.

A White House spokesman wouldn't comment on the search for Satcher's replacement, and Carmona said a White House official asked him Thursday not to discuss the process until an official announcement is made.

"I'm flattered and overwhelmed to even be considered," Carmona said. "That's all I can say."

U.S. Rep. Jim Kolbe, R-Ariz., has written a letter to the White House recommending Carmona, as has Dr. Edmund Kravitski, president of the Pima County Medical Society.

"He is a rugged guy from the streets of New York who found his way to the Arizona desert," Kravitski says in his letter. "He will shine in Washington."

SEE CARMONA / A13



'I'm flattered and overwhelmed to even be considered.'
Richard Carmona
Trauma surgeon and sheriff's deputy

IN TODAY'S STAR

ARIZONA & THIS WEST A7
BRIDGE B5
BUSINESS B14
COMICS B4
DEAR ARMY B5
EDITORIALS B67
HOROSCOPES B2
LOTTERY A13
MOVIES CALIENTE B-6
NEWS/OPINIONS B5
OVERTAKES B6
PUZZLES CLASSIFIED 1
SPORTS C14
TELEVISION B5

Weather

TUCSON'S FORECAST
Sunny
High 74 / Low 40

*Variable: High 73 / Low 35
For complete weather information, see the weather report page on two of four.
www.azstarnet.com/weather

On StarNet
www.azstarnet.com

SN

AP headlines, local news, video coverage and more, every day.
www.azstarnet.com

A PULITZER AWARDWINNER
No. 101, No. 39

5 0136 00001 3

Afghans sell infants to survive

Amounts paid barely enough to last a month

By Brian Murphy
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MAZAR-E-SHARIF, Afghanistan — The deal was arranged even before the baby's birth. The price for the infant: enough to feed the family for another month.

In an extraordinary act of desperation, some Afghan parents say they've sold their children for about the price of a restaurant meal in the West — an amount that even in this impoverished country is not huge but can make the difference between life and death for the poorest of the poor.

"Purchasing my baby was hard, but watching my family die slowly of hunger is even worse," said Afghan Mir, 25, who claimed he turned over his 4-day-old son in December to a relatively prosperous Afghan family for the equivalent of \$60.

The money, he said, paid for about a month's worth of food for his wife and six remaining children in the seething, Dushanbe northern city of Mazar-e-Sharif. He said a middleman from the city's bazaar made the arrangements while his wife was pregnant.

"And now the money is gone," moaned Mir's mother, Oyma Khal. "We're back to living on wild grass and carrots. Maybe we will have to sell another child."

SEE INFANTS / A13

Bush agrees to follow Geneva Conventions

By Ron Hutchinson and Carol Rosenberg
WASH. POST NEWSWOMAN

WASHINGTON — In response to international criticism, President Bush agreed Thursday to follow Geneva Convention guidelines for the treatment of captured Afghan fighters, even though he considers them illegal combatants.

Bush drew a distinction between Taliban soldiers who fought for the Afghan regime and fighters aligned with the al Qaeda terrorist network. He said the Geneva Conventions cover Taliban troops because they fought for a country that ratified the 1949 agreement.

The legal distinction has little significance, because Bush did not budge from his earlier decision that all the captured soldiers — whether Taliban or al Qaeda — are terrorists, not prisoners of war.

While he has agreed to treat the Taliban soldiers humanely as prescribed by the Geneva Conventions,

SEE GENEVA / A13



Muhammed Hashim, 25, wept, says he recently sold his 3-year-old son for \$30. Son Sajjadine, 6, stands next to him.