

SUNDAY

Milestone

Lute Olson goes for 500th win today Page 1C



BEST AVAILABLE COPY

Target: Ed Moore Election foes already lining up ... 1B
Holiday bills Counseling can ease crush ... 1F
Drawing on the walls Tucsonans' backyard vistas ... 1G

Community friction

Growing pains at SaddleBrooke Page 1B



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Look who's Talking... Hey Kids... Win! Enter the Kids News/Fresh News Contest on Page 3-1. Find the answers in the La-Z-Boy Wrapper, section W.

Closed Canyon put governments at odds

By Christopher Smith
PHOENIX - When Grand Canyon National Park endured its first-ever shutdown in November, it became a symbol of the federal budget impasse.
Arizona Gov. Fife Symington did his best John Wayne, commanding a brigade of state troops to the canyon, leading a charge to rescue tourists.
However, the events of Nov. 17 came perilously close to creating a national crisis.
For the first time in nearly 35 years, the federal government was prepared to usurp a state governor's authority over the National Guard out of fear the state troops would be used to attack a federal facility.

What price love?

Table with columns: STORE, PRICE FOR A DOZEN ROSES, DELIVERY. Lists florists like ABCO Foods, Discount Flowers/Tucson Florist, etc.

Valentine's Day roses are windfall for florists

By Laura Brooks
The Arizona Daily Star
She loves its tight bud, its blushing face and its long, sturdy stem.
At five dollars a pop, she'd better be.
Tucson rose prices are following a time-honored Valentine's Day tradition: They are climbing off the vine.
'The prices are going way sky-high,' says Michelle Concienne, at ABCO Foods floral shop, 2140 W. Grant Road.
'Suppliers are wanting to make money off this holiday,' said Tom Peloso, florist at Arizona Flower Market.
'A survey of 10 area florists found prices for a dozen roses ranging from \$28.99 to \$70.95, with the most common price about \$60. Compare that to summertime prices of \$25 to \$35 for the same bouquet.
'No, it's not really fair,' concedes a saleswoman at All American Florists, who declined to be identified. 'But people are willing to spend that much.'
Suppliers traditionally triple or quadruple prices to capitalize on the February buying rush, florists say. Consumers take a price hit as well, but retailers absorb some of the blow for them.
'So, actually for the consumer, if we had to charge that quadruple price, it would be awful,' says Kelly Malloy, owner of Flowers For You.
Retailers make up for it by selling huge quantities of roses, however. Malloy says she triples her staff and quadruples her drivers for the blessed day.
'The volume takes care of us,' she says. 'This is the biggest single delivery day.'

Shots kill boy



Benjie Sanders, The Arizona Daily Star
A Tucson Police Department bicycle patrol officer enters a ground-floor window of a two-story downtown apartment in search of a suspect in the shooting death of Dagaberto Casillas. At left, paramedics work on Casillas, 17, after the shooting. Story, Page 1B.

Iowa GOP, candidates are primed

By Peter A. Brown
Special Report News Service
DES MOINES, Iowa - Iowa Republicans will venture out in sub-freezing temperatures tomorrow night for neighborhood meetings that in all likelihood will give Bob Dole a first step toward the GOP presidential nomination.
The uncertainty was over who would emerge as his primary challenger after the first round here.
An estimated 110,000 to 120,000 Republicans will gather in 2,142 schools, living rooms and church basements for two-hour meetings to discuss local matters, and vote for a candidate to be president of the United States.
As businessman Steve Forbes, who had been running second, fell in the polls in recent days, the hot candidates in the race for the key silver medal became former TV broadcaster Pat Buchanan and former Tennessee Gov. Lamar Alexander.
Dole, who won the caucuses See IOWA, Page 6A.

WEATHER

Rain may fall. Today is expected to become mostly cloudy by afternoon with a slight chance of showers and thunderstorms late in the day. Windy and a little cooler. Yesterday's high was 79 with a low of 49. Details on Page 11A.

INDEX

- Accent...140B Horoscopes...54
Boots...34 Money...14F
Classified...132C Movies...14
Comment...140D Neon to Noon...34
Comment...54 Obituaries...12A
Dear Abby...44 Sports...132C
Dr. Healy...54 Travel...14G
Home...1610H World...143E

Deadly London bomb was work of IRA

LONDON (AP) - The Irish Republican Army claimed responsibility yesterday for a London bombing, and police searching through the wreckage found the bodies of two newspaper vendors - the first confirmed deaths in the attack.
The blast that ripped through the Canary Wharf office complex Friday evening, killing at least two people and injuring more than a 100 others, has shattered the complacency that came with 17 months of relative peace.
Yesterday, police found the bodies of the men who had been reported missing. They were Imam U-Haj Bashar, 39, of southwest London, and John Jefferies, 31, of suburban Bromley.
'These are innocent victims, they were not associated with the crime,' a Scotland Yard spokeswoman said.
The explosion in a parking garage in the Docklands area of east London came an hour after the unexpected announcement that the IRA was calling off its cease-fire to protest the slow pace of the peace process.
Yesterday, a caller to Ireland's RTE broadcasting service said the attack was ordered by IRA leadership. The caller, echoing many past IRA statements, blamed all the injuries on a slow response by police.
The IRA blames the British government of sabotaging the peace process by stalling on all-party negotiations, but President Clinton and Irish Prime Minister John Bruton joined the British in condemning the attack.
Rescue workers continued to search buildings wrecked by the bomb.

Tomorrow in The Arizona Daily Star

Class of '96 Meet this month's members of the class, a group of Flowing Wells High School seniors... Selling service One local car dealer tries a no wrinkle in auto leases - all maintenance is covered by the deal. Shy star Rising actor Jimmy Smits hasn't gone Hollywood, despite his continuing hot streak.