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DAVID SANDERS / ARIZONA DAILY STAR

Northwest Medical Center transporter Maria Walsh moves a patient in the emergency area of the hospital. Northwest is pledging to try to assure that patients are seen by a doctor within 30 minutes of arriving. The average emergency-room wait statewide is 5½ hours.

Mercado District developer defaults on \$1M

But talks with bank may forestall auction set for Jan. 12, he says

By Dale Quinn
ARIZONA DAILY STAR

The developer of the Mercado District of Menlo Park, an upscale Rio Nuevo project just west of downtown, has defaulted on a \$1 million loan, public records show.

The developer, Rio Development Co., has been negotiating to refinance the loan with Alliance Bank of Arizona and is awaiting an appraisal, said Jerry Dixon, who is a partner in Rio Development along with his son Justin Dixon.

"The bank got impatient and is starting to force the issue," Jerry Dixon said.

An Alliance Bank representative would not comment on any negotiations.

The Mercado District markets itself as a "new urban" community and is touted as successful downtown development.

In 2007, former Rio Nuevo Director Greg Shelko told the Tucson City Council that the project had received \$5.6 million from the city. The bulk of that cash — about \$4.7

See MERCADO, A4

30-minute ER pledge

Half-hour wait to see a physician is goal of Northwest Medical Center

By Stephanie Innes
ARIZONA DAILY STAR

It's not quite like that old Domino's Pizza campaign "30 minutes or free," but Northwest Medical Center says its emergency-room patients should not have to wait longer than 30 minutes.

"It's not free, and it's not a guarantee, but it is our pledge to do the absolute best we can to meet that time frame," Northwest Medical Center spokeswoman Kimberly Chimene said Thursday. "We know there are times when we can't meet it, but we are working diligently to make sure it

happens."

The promise isn't that patients will get in and out of the ER in 30 minutes. Officials with the for-profit, 300-bed hospital say all patients who come to the emergency department should be seen by a physician within 30 minutes. The "30-Minute ER Service Pledge" began this week.

"We believe this service pledge will distinguish us from other health-care providers in the area,

and underline our commitment to people who live and work in the Tucson community," Northwest Medical Center Chief Executive Officer Kevin Stockton said in a prepared statement.

At least one other local hospital says it's already achieving the 30-

See EMERGENCY, A4

SN On StarNet: Find more health news at azstarnet.com/science

With Gadhafi dead, Libyans now face the complicated part

By Bradley Klapper
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — Libya's victorious revolutionaries now face a new threat: themselves.

The secular and the religious, the politicians and the militants all basked Thursday in the demise of a dictator after fighters killed Moammar Gadhafi and ended his four decades of repression in Libya.

But while congratulations poured in from across the world, the Obama administration and others tempered the celebrations with a dose of caution, conscious



DAVID SPERRY / THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Revolutionary Libyan fighters inspect a storm drain where they say Gadhafi was found. Now they must embark on nation-building.

See LIBYA, A19
More about the demise of Gadhafi / A19

Obama was patronizing during their DC meeting, Brewer says in new book

By Howard Fischer
CAPITOL MEDIA SERVICES

PHOENIX — Gov. Jan Brewer says President Obama was "condescending" to her in the lone face-to-face meeting they had over the issue of border security.

In her new book, "Scorpions for Breakfast," the Arizona governor details how she engineered time with the president last year at the White House. The meeting took place after she signed into law SB 1070, the measure aimed at illegal immigrants, but before the Obama administration sued to overturn it. She sought the meeting to explain to Obama "exactly what is taking

place down there in Arizona and that we need to have our borders secured."

But the governor said the president apparently had a different agenda, telling her about how the government was doing everything it could "but the system was broken."

"It wasn't long before I realized I was hearing the president's stump speech," she wrote. "Only I was supposed to listen without talking."

See BREWER'S BOOK, A4

SN On StarNet: Read more about local, state and national political news at azstarnet.com/politics

SUPER BOWL PORN

Ex-cable employee gets probation, fine for airing explicit scene during game. **Page A2**

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