



IN FULL Bloom

Molly Bloom, who lost her leg in a limousine accident five years ago, thrives as a wheelchair athlete. »LIFESTYLE, 1D

NOT ALL HANKERING TO MOVE STOCK SHOW

»BUSINESS, 5B

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“The world is safer”

Belying his persona, bin Laden lived in wealth, died in cowardice, U.S. says



Fort Carson Staff Sgt. Shawn Meyer places his hand on the engraved name of his friend, Staff Sgt. Eric T. Duckworth, at the Kit Carson Memorial on Monday. Duckworth was killed in Iraq. Referring to Osama bin Laden, Meyer told his friend, “We got him.” Joe Amon, The Denver Post

Details emerge of the raid, DNA testing and Islamic burial at sea.

By Scott Wilson and Anne E. Kornblut
The Washington Post

The Obama administration presented new details Monday about the death of Osama bin Laden, portraying the spiritual leader of al-Qaeda as a reclusive figure who had lived in relative luxury and whose final moments had finally exposed his cowardice. As Americans solemnly remembered those killed at bin Laden's command, senior administration officials sought to turn their tactical military victory into a moral one by undermining the heroic image bin Laden had long cultivated among his followers. They stressed that he had been discovered not in a remote cave but in a mansion in a wealthy Pakistani city. They also suggested that as he tried to escape U.S. Special Operations forces, he may have used one of his wives as a shield. “Here is bin Laden, who has been calling for these attacks, living in this million-dollar-plus compound, living in an area that is far removed from the front, hiding behind women who were put in front of him as a shield,” John Brennan, President Barack Obama's deputy national security adviser for counterterrorism, told reporters at the White House. “I think it really just speaks to just how false his narrative has been over the years.” Administration officials continued releasing select details of the raid that

BIN LADEN » 7A

Mixed emotions for families of the fallen

By Kevin Simpson The Denver Post

At her son's 2005 funeral, Cindy Dietz listened as his brothers in arms — fellow Navy SEALs — promised to avenge the al-Qaeda attack in Afghanistan that killed Danny and 18 others. Nearly six years later, she sat at home by the television Sunday night and heard the news: Al-Qaeda leader Osama bin Laden had been killed. “I knew it would happen one day, but I didn't know when,” Dietz said Monday as she prepared to visit the grave of her 25-year-old son at Fort Logan National Cemetery. “And when they said it was

special forces, I knew it was Navy SEALs. They made a promise to the families they would finish the fight, and it's amazing they followed through. “They didn't quit.” Dietz immediately phoned her son's widow in Virginia and learned that one of the SEALs involved in the raid was a close friend of Danny's — a footnote that made the outcome of the daring raid on bin Laden's compound in Pakistan even sweeter. For those who lost loved ones in the war on terrorism, the news of bin Laden's death at the hands of U.S. forces met with a mixture of elation, sadness

and the reminder of their own loss, and satisfaction. “I think in so many people's lives, everyone who lost loved ones on 9/11 and since, there was a sense of relief that this awful man was taken down,” said Tiffany Bitz, Danny's sister. “There are certainly struggles ahead of us, but this was a huge accomplishment in the battle we're in now.” In Bennett, east of Denver, Holly Meis, husband Chris and son Hunter got a phone call telling them to check the news. It had been only a matter of weeks since their son and brother, 20-year-old Marine Lance Cpl.

FAMILIES » 8A

SUCCESSFUL SEARCH

Persistent hunt for courier led to bin Laden

By Adam Goldman and Matt Apuzzo
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON» When one of Osama bin Laden's most trusted aides picked up the phone last year, he unknowingly led U.S. pursuers to the doorstep of his boss, the world's most-wanted terrorist. That phone call, recounted Monday by a U.S. official, ended a years-long search for bin Laden's personal courier, the key break in a worldwide manhunt. The courier, in turn, led U.S. intelligence to a walled compound in northeast Pakistan, where a team of Navy SEALs shot bin Laden to death. The violent final minutes were the culmination of years of intelligence work. Inside the CIA team hunting bin Laden, it always was clear that bin Laden's vulnerability was his couriers. He was too smart to let al-Qaeda foot soldiers, or even his senior commanders, know his hideout. But if he wanted to get his messages out, somebody had to carry them, someone bin Laden trusted with his life. In a secret CIA prison in Eastern Europe years ago, al-Qaeda's No. 3 lead-

HUNT » 6A

“ Can we celebrate the deaths of those who would kill us? Absolutely. It's worth a celebration. The world experiences redemption in the elimination of this evil.”

Orthodox Jewish Rabbi Benjy Brackman of the Chabad of Northwest Metro Denver in Westminster »REACTIONS FROM COLORADANS, 8A



POLITICS

Sarah Palin salutes military. At a Colorado benefit for families of fallen U.S. service members, the former governor of Alaska hails the killing of Osama bin Laden. »9A

Extras. Photos, videos and additional coverage of Osama bin Laden's death. »denverpost.com



THE FUTURE OF THE FIGHT
Violent vision survives. While experts say Osama bin Laden's death is significant, they warn of the threat from al-Qaeda affiliates in North Africa and Yemen and from a self-radicalized vanguard in the United States. »11A

Hard-line Taliban supporters in Quetta, Pakistan, protest the killing of al-Qaeda founder Osama bin Laden by U.S. commandos. Banaras Khan, AFP/Getty Images