

BIN LADEN INSIDE: 'QUIET PROFESSIONALS' CALLED UPON FOR RAID ■ A STRUGGLE TO PROVE AL-QAIDA LEADER IS DEAD >PAGE 5A

U.S. avenges 9/11 dead



Bin Laden shot in head after firing on SEALs

Trail to leader of al-Qaida began in CIA secret prisons

Pride in victory against terrorism extends to Grand Junction



CHRISTOPHER TOMLINSON/The Daily Sentinel

PAUL BEEN, CENTER, took the flagpole he stores in his garage and his flag to a rally Monday evening at Teller Arms shopping center to mark the killing by U.S. forces of al-Qaida leader Osama bin Laden. Been's wife, Ann, is in the foreground. Their son commands an Air Force base in Texas.

Area veterans ponder wider war on terror with bin Laden demise

By **RICHIE ANN ASHCRAFT**
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Local veterans who recently served in Iraq and Afghanistan expressed conflicted feelings Monday after the announcement of Osama bin Laden's death.

"It was just a lot of relief," said Brandon Jamison, 30, who served in Iraq from 2003 to 2004. As a Marine corporal, Jamison performed humanitarian missions in Baghdad — helping to

rebuild schools and hospitals. Jamison said he was surprised by the announcement as he, like many others, had suspected the al-Qaida leader already was dead.

"It's been a long time coming, but now I keep wondering what's next," he said.

Jamison is worried that there will be retaliation and compared the event to the death of Saddam Hussein in 2006.

"I've thought a lot about this and I don't think it will make a

difference," said Kyle Davis, 25, a veteran who served in Iraq from 2005 to 2006.

Davis heard about the assassination during a veterans fundraiser to support Western Slope Honor Flight, which took place at Tenacious Bros. Pub on Sunday evening.

"I heard screaming and cheers," Davis said, "and they poured everybody a shot on the

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By **GARY HARMON**
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The killing of Osama bin Laden, reported to the nation on Sunday night by President Barack Obama, set off a series of impromptu celebrations from New York and Washington, D.C., to the campus of Mesa State College and up Plateau Creek to tiny Collbran.

About 100 people gathered Monday evening at Teller Arms shopping center, 2401 North Ave., to wave flags and cheer the event and to honor the armed services.

"I feel so proud to be an American," 16-year-old Harlen Jones said at the rally, which he attended with his mother, Eva Silva-Jones, who wore a red-white-and-blue sweater to the event. "I'm proud of my government for doing this."

The death of the mastermind of the attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, reverberated strongly among other young people who chanted "USA" and sang a capella renditions of the national anthem in rallies broadcast around the country, as well as at Mesa State College.

Adrienne Barlow, 20, was watching television Sunday night when she heard sounds loud enough that she thought they were coming from the TV.

A peek into the courtyard, though, revealed hundreds of college students marching through the quad area on the west side of the campus.

"They were chanting, 'USA! USA!' and waving flags," Barlow said.

The crowd might have seemed to grow out of nowhere, but in fact, Barlow said, it sprang fully

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CHRISTOPHER TOMLINSON
The Daily Sentinel

SALLY BENSON WALKED out of the south tower of the World Trade Center through debris from the north tower, which had just been struck by a hijacked jetliner the morning of Sept. 11, 2001.

Woman in tower just before crash shares jubilation

By **GARY HARMON**
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New Jersey native Sally Benson revealed Monday evening in the knowledge that the man who drove her from her home on the East Coast to western Colorado was finally dead.

Benson was in the south tower of the World Trade Center on the morning of Sept. 11, 2001, unaware that a jet had slammed

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By **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

WASHINGTON — After nearly a decade of anger and fear, America rejoiced Monday at the demise of Osama bin Laden, the terror mastermind behind the horrific 9/11 attacks. Navy SEALs who killed the world's most-wanted terrorist seized a trove of al-Qaida documents, and President Barack Obama laid plans to visit New York's ground zero.

Bin Laden, killed in an intense firefight in a daring raid at his fortified hideout in Pakistan, was hunted down based on information first gleaned years ago from detainees at secret CIA prison sites in Eastern Europe, officials disclosed.

His body was quickly taken away for burial at sea, but not before a DNA match was done to prove his identity. A U.S. official said there also were photos showing bin Laden with the

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THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

PRESIDENT BARACK OBAMA follows progress of the raid in the White House situation room Sunday.

CIA tracks bin Laden courier

By **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.

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CHRISTOPHER TOMLINSON/The Daily Sentinel

HAYLEE TOWNSEND, 16 MONTHS, and her mother and father were among about 100 people who attended a rally Monday evening at Teller Arms shopping center to celebrate the killing of Osama bin Laden, the mastermind of the 9/11 attacks.

Fruita confronts another rate hike for sewer plant

By **MIKE WIGGINS**
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When Warren Walcher opened an Express Care lube center and car wash in Fruita seven years ago, his monthly sewer bill was around \$80 a month.

Walcher's bill has grown to

\$380 a month as Fruita municipal leaders, faced with a federal mandate to build a new sewer treatment plant or be slapped with heavy fines, have instituted gradual rate increases on the city's roughly 150 commercial accounts and 4,300 residential accounts. The city wants to generate the revenue necessary

to pay for the construction and operation of the plant.

The city now is considering another rate hike and changing the way it bills businesses from a formula-based system to one based on actual consumption of water. A majority of the city's businesses would see no change or even a decline in

their bills, but Walcher says his bill would soar to nearly \$700 a month — almost double what he's paying now.

He and a handful of the city's other greatest consumers of water have lodged concerns with the city, claiming the change shifts too much of the burden to subsidize the sewer

plant to them, could shut them down and chase prospective businesses away from Fruita.

"If we start losing business out there, pretty soon it's going to affect all of us," Walcher said.

After holding public meetings in March and April about the proposed changes, the City

Council could vote tonight on a rate increase. The meeting begins at 7 p.m. at the Civic Center, 325 E. Aspen Ave.

City Manager Clint Kinney said the city has raised its sewer rate from \$8 a month to the

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