The Portland Observer

Bin Laden Not Armed in Raid

The change in official account raises questions

(AP) -- Osama bin Laden was unarmed when Navy SEALs burst into his room and shot him to death, the White House said Tuesday, a change in the official account that raised questions about whether the U.S. ever planned to capture the terrorist leader alive.

while, was still debating whether to

Laden's corpse, balancing efforts to demonstrate to the world that he was dead against the risk that the images could provoke further anti- ting up a task force to review the U.S. sentiment. But CIA Director Leon Panetta said a photograph would be released.

"I don't think there was any question that ultimately a photograph would be presented to the public," Panetta said in an interview with "NBC Nightly News."

The Obama administration, mean- wanted terrorist, the SEAL team in just minutes quickly swept bin for sure.

release gruesome images of bin Laden's compound for useful intelligence, making off with a cache of computer equipment and documents. The CIA was hurriedly setmaterial from the highest level of al-Qaida's leadership.

The documents provide a rare opportunity for U.S. intelligence. When a mid-level terrorist is captured, his bosses know exactly what information might be compromised and can change plans. When the After killing the world's most boss is taken, everything might be compromised but nobody knows

Panetta, the CIA director, said bin Laden didn't have time to speak to the SEALs who killed him.

"I don't think he had a lot of time to say anything," Panetta said in an interview with PBS NewsHour. "It was a firefight going up that compound. ... I think it - this was all split-second action on the part of the SEALs."

Panetta said that bin Laden made some threatening moves that were made that clearly represented a clear threat to our guys. And that's the reason they fired."

The question of how to present proof of bin Laden's death to the world is a difficult balancing act for the White House.



Flag Lowered for Teen

The flag of the City of Portland was



lowered Monday for Shiloh Hampton, a 14 year-old who was shot and killed in a drive-by shooting last

month near Holladay Park in northeast Portland. The City Council bestows the honor when local children die from abuse, neglect or homicidal violence. Hampton was a first year student at Madison High School where he played on the football team.

Gangs Rise as Funds Fall

Sen. Ron Wyden held a news conference with local officials Thursday at the police precinct in northeast Portland to address the need to protect federal law enforcement programs that help fight gang violence, which is on the rise throughout the Portland community. Congress is defunding gang prevention programs.

Flight of Friendship

As people struggle to rebuild their lives following one of the greatest natural disasters known to man, a local group announced last week that they will be organizing a trip to Japan for Oregonians to extend their support. The goal of the Flight of Friendship Japan is to let survivors know they have not, and will not be forgotten, as well as contribute to the sagging economy through tourism. The May 29 through June 4 travel event is open to anyone.

Trial Extended for Doctor The long-awaited trial for the doctor charged in the drug death of Michael Jackson was delayed on Monday for four months after the judge said defense lawyers need additional preparation time to effectively represent their client. Although Dr. Conrad Murray originally expressed his desire for a speedy trial, Superior Court Judge Michael Pastor said he was more concerned with justice for the client than with the speed of the proceedings.





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Royal Wedding Smile

With a smile that lit up TV screens around the world, Kate Middleton married Prince William Friday in a



union that promised to revitalize the British monarchy. A million people

roared their approval as the royal couple then paraded through London in an open carriage.