



JEFF JULIAN | Special to the Times

'THE GREATEST' COMES TO MOURN ANGELO DUNDEE

Muhammad Ali, above, and others pay tribute to legendary trainer Angelo Dundee at a Clearwater memorial service. **Sports, 1C**

Greek turmoil boils over once again

As Europe seeks more concessions, divisions rise in Greece over new austerity measures. **World, 2A**

Bombings kill at least 28 in Syria

An outbreak of violence in the formerly peaceful city of Aleppo claims dozens of lives. **World, 6A**

Candidates wave conservative flags

GOP presidential hopefuls try to prove themselves at the Conservative Political Action Conference in Washington. **Nation, 10A**

Last of the hardhat sponge divers dies

Philip Fatolitis, thought to be the last of Tarpon Springs' famed hardhat divers, was 88. **Local, 1B**

Many years of red tape later, a medal

Five years after he was injured in Iraq, a National Guardsman gets his Purple Heart. **Local, 1B**

Boy hit by stray bullet recovering

A Ruskin boy hit by a falling bullet on New Year's Eve recovers at home. **Local, 1B**

Correction

In a PolitiFact story in Friday's *Times*, we incorrectly described two birth control methods. Plan B and Ella may prevent implantation of a fertilized egg as well as prevent fertilization. RU-486 ends an early pregnancy after a fertilized egg has implanted.

Obama yields to religion

Vowing to protect religious freedom and women's health, he compromises on the birth control issue.

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Barack Obama on Friday abruptly abandoned his stand that religious organizations must pay for birth control for workers, scrambling to end a furor raging from the Catholic Church to Con-

gress to his re-election foes. He demanded that insurance companies step in to provide the coverage instead.

Obama's compromise means ultimately that women would still get birth control without having to pay for it, no matter

where they work. The president insisted he had stuck by that driving principle even in switching his approach, and the White House vehemently rejected any characterization that Obama had retreated under pressure.

» See **BIRTH CONTROL, 13A**

THE NEWS

» President Barack Obama on Friday announced a compromise for the birth-control uproar that will protect religious liberty but also ensure that women have access to free contraception.

THE SOLUTION

» The administration will demand that insurance companies, not religious employers, be the ones directly responsible for providing free contraception.

THE STAKES

» Congressional Republicans as well as GOP presidential hopefuls criticized Obama on the issue. Even some Democrats and liberal groups allied with the Roman Catholic Church objected.

"I hope ... you, too, will choke on your own blood."

Cindy Roberts, addressing Humberto Delgado Jr., who killed her husband

Cop killer gets death



Pool photo

Cindy Roberts, widow of Tampa police Cpl. Michael Roberts, points at Humberto Delgado Jr., during his sentencing Friday.



EDMUND D. FOUNTAIN | Times
Humberto Delgado Jr., 36, is led into the courtroom Friday.

Widow Cindy Roberts, long silent about the killing, pours out her anger in court.

BY ALEXANDRA ZAYAS AND JOHN BARRY
Times Staff Writers

TAMPA — Humberto Delgado never asked for mercy, and he didn't get it Friday.

His victim's widow called him a cop killer and told him to choke on his own blood.

There was no prelude to the judge, except just six words: "All of this on your hands."

Delgado, 36, said nothing when he

was condemned to death.

His family was not present.

They had been warned.

Dozens of officers left the courtroom in silence and lined up in the lobby, flanking a pathway for Cindy Roberts, just as they had at the hospital the night of Aug. 19, 2009, after the chief and the mayor took her into a room with trauma surgeons and told her that her husband, 38-year-old Cpl. » See **DELGADO, 13A**



Cpl. Michael Roberts, 38, was beaten and shot Aug. 19, 2009, after he approached Delgado.

Drug may be a brain healer

When treated with a cancer drug, mice with Alzheimer's show improvement.

Staff and wire reports

Mice in the early stage of Alzheimer's disease had brain abnormalities reversed and mental function restored when they were given low doses of a rarely used cancer drug.

The drug, bexarotene, stimulated removal of beta-amyloid, a brain substance that can lead to Alzheimer's dementia.

After treatment, the animals fared better in tests of memory and social behavior, according to a study published online Thursday by the journal *Science*.

The findings were dramatic, but their relevance to people is unknown. Many chemical compounds that looked promising in mice have flopped in humans. And human clinical studies could easily take five or six years.

Still, the fact that the Food and Drug Administration already has approved bexarotene for human use should speed things along.

"We've got to work fast and we have got to be right. We can't" » See **ALZHEIMER'S, 13A**

Church unable to quiet ex-leader

Scientology lawyers drop legal action against Debbie Cook.

BY JOE CHILDS AND THOMAS C. TOBIN
Times Staff Writers

SAN ANTONIO, Texas — Stung by damaging testimony about its inner workings, the Church of Scientology abruptly ended its effort to silence former Clearwater leader Debbie Cook on Friday, beating an uncharacteristic legal retreat and emboldening Cook to keep talking.

Just hours after the church dropped its request for an injunction enforcing a confidentiality agreement with Cook, she sat with reporters and said she hopes the turbulent events of the past few days open church members' eyes.

"I'm hoping that it will create a reformation from within," said Cook, who had previously » See **SCIENTOLOGY, 7A**

His teachers saw potential in him and because of their help, Mike Larry has thrived and is now college bound.

A village lifted up Mike

BY MATT BAKER
Times Staff Writer

DADE CITY — It's the biggest day of Mike Larry's life, and his family is not here.

His mother is dead, beaten to death by his stepdad. His father, grandfather and older brother are all in jail. So is his younger brother, accused of murder. The only relative still around is grandmama, but she's too frail to watch her grandson

sign with North Dakota State College of Science.

So Larry fidgets, alone on a black couch, a spotted red tie hanging from his red shirt to his black slacks.

Then a teacher comes up to hug him. A coach shakes his hand. James Irvin Education Center's star child is signing to play college football, and the ones who raised him up are here to celebrate.

» See **MIKE LARRY, 7A**



James Irvin Education Center senior Mike Larry is hugged by his science teacher, Angela Ingrassia, after signing a scholarship Thursday to play college football in North Dakota.

STEPHEN J. CODDINGTON
Times

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