

Los Angeles Times

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CHRISTINA HOUSE For The Times
FRANK ZAMORA and Sherida Ruiz comfort a victim during a news conference outside the Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angels in downtown Los Angeles in the wake of the release of reams of church sex abuse files.

Dodgers' TV deal could be game changer

Time Warner Cable could pay as much as \$8 billion over 20 years, bad news for Fox and non-fans.

By JOE FLINT AND BILL SHAIKIN

The Los Angeles Dodgers have negotiated a long-term television deal that would pay the team \$7 billion to \$8 billion, a move that would help cover its recent spending spree and quiet critics who scoffed at the record \$2.15-billion purchase price paid by the new owner, Guggenheim Partners.

ably mean bigger pay TV bills — even for those who don't watch Dodgers baseball, potentially leading to a backlash against the team and Time Warner Cable.

Under the terms of the proposed contract, Guggenheim would own a Dodgers-dedicated television channel that would start carrying games in 2014, said the people with knowledge of the pact. Time Warner Cable would manage much of the channel's operations and handle distribution to other pay TV companies, including DirecTV and Cox Cable.

The Dodgers' move to control their own channel is driven in part by a desire to pocket as much money as [See TV rights, A10]

Charges unlikely for Mahony

Church files' age is among several legal obstacles, experts say

By HARRIET RYAN, ASHLEY POWERS AND VICTORIA KIM

Lack of atonement

Cardinal Mahony's efforts to shield molesters are unsurprising, Steve Lopez writes. PAGE A2

Over the last decade, there have been numerous calls to prosecute Cardinal Roger M. Mahony and his top aides for their mishandling of clergy sex abuse. At least three grand juries, two district attorneys and a U.S. attorney have subpoenaed documents and summoned witnesses. None of those

cases resulted in charges against the archdiocese's hierarchy.

The release this week of a trove of internal church records showing a concerted effort to hide abuse from police triggered new demands

from victims and church critics that Mahony and his advisors be held criminally accountable.

The Los Angeles County district attorney pledged to review all the files and evaluate them for criminal conduct, but legal experts consulted Tuesday said the reams of new documents were unlikely to lead to charges, let alone convictions.

A nearly insurmountable barrier is the statute of limitations, the experts said. A quarter-century has passed since Mahony and his chief aide for sex abuse cases, Msgr. Thomas J. Curry, wrote memos outlining strategies to prevent police investigations of three priests who had admitted abusing boys. The 1986 and 1987 letters fall decades beyond the three-year statute of limitations for felonies such as child endangerment, obstruction of justice and [See Church, A9]

And the pact would prob-

ISRAEL VOTING DEALS A BLOW TO RIGHT

By EDMUND SANDERS

JERUSALEM — Israeli voters dealt a stunning political rebuke to Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, leaving parliamentary elections in a virtual tie between the right and center-left and denying him the mandate he sought to pursue hawkish policies toward Palestinian peace talks, Iran's nuclear program and construction of West Bank settlements.

Netanyahu was still regarded as the most likely candidate to form a new government after Tuesday's voting because there are few other credible figures. But the disappointing performance will require him to reach out to the center to form a governing coalition.

With all but votes from prisoners, military voters and some government workers counted early Wednesday, the conservative and religious parties had won 60 seats in the 120-seat Knesset, Israel's parliament, the same number won by centrist and left-wing parties, who were led by a surprisingly strong performance from a political newcomer, Yair Lapid.

Though the final tally could change slightly, the close race all but ensures a period of turmoil before a new government emerges, and catapults Lapid and his recently formed centrist party, Yesh Atid ("There Is a [See Israel, A4]

Glee, guilt over Seattle NBA bid

A city still bitter over the SuperSonics' departure knows that its gain would be Sacramento's loss.

By KIM MURPHY

gence in 2008 as the Oklahoma City Thunder. Guys in Sonics hats showed up at Schultz's book signing at a Costco in 2011 and proudly videotaped themselves getting thrown out. A documentary film, "Sonicsgate," explored in excruciating detail the raw deal that preceded the transfer and the civic pain that ensued.

So it perhaps comes as no surprise that as Seattle prepares to snatch Sacramento's NBA team away to the Emerald City, one of the prevailing emotions — just half a step behind the elation, it seems — is guilt. They've been there. It's not nice to gloat, and Seattle is a town that spends an inordinate amount of civic time figuring out how to do the right thing, even while continuing to keep resentful score against those who don't.

[See Seattle, A7]



KEVIN P. CASEY For The Times

SEATTLEITES HELD a rally in June calling for the return of pro basketball to the Emerald City.



BETHANY MOLLENKOF Los Angeles Times

DR. OSCAR SABLAN meets with Michael Murillo, 57, who has stomach pains. Sablan and his wife are the only full-time doctors in the community.

COLUMN ONE

Real family doctors

For three decades, Drs. Marcia and Oscar Sablan have cared for generations in rural Firebaugh

By ANNA GORMAN

REPORTING FROM FIREBAUGH, CALIF.

On a morning in early January, the air is cold and Firebaugh's main street is nearly empty. But the Sablan Medical Clinic is quickly filling up with people eager to see the physicians they affectionately call Dr. Marcia and Dr. Oscar.

Lela Burkhardt, whose family owns a farm in this remote San Joaquin Valley town surrounded by fields of pistachios and almonds, is one of the first patients of the day.

Burkhardt, 86, recently had heart surgery, and this morning she's feeling tired and short of breath. Oscar Sablan tells her that the lab tests show she is dangerously anemic.

"You are bleeding inside, even though you cannot see it," he tells her.

"Do I need to go to the hospital?" she asks. Sablan nods. "It's a little too low for us to wait," he says, patting her on the back.

Thirty years ago, Oscar and his wife, Marcia, made a plan: work in a rural area for three [See Doctors, A8]



MATT MOODY Los Angeles Times

Weather
Partly sunny.
L.A. Basin: 79/56. **AA6**
Complete Index ... AA2

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