



JASON ARMOND Los Angeles Times

**SHOHEI OHTANI** said his former interpreter, Ippei Mizuhara, “has been stealing money from my account and has told lies.” Previously, Mizuhara said Ohtani paid the interpreter’s gambling debt and knew about it.

# ‘Shocked’ Ohtani denies he has ever bet on sports

Dodgers star alleges ex-interpreter stole funds to pay gambling debts

By JACK HARRIS

Shohei Ohtani finally broke his silence Monday afternoon. And in a prepared 12-minute statement to reporters at Dodger Stadium, the Japanese star accused his

former interpreter and close friend, Ippei Mizuhara, of “theft and fraud” related to payments made from Ohtani’s account to an illegal Orange County bookmaking operation. In front of a packed news conference room in the bowels of his new home ballpark,

Ohtani said he has never bet on sports or anything else, never been asked to make bets on someone else’s behalf and never used a bookmaker for sports gambling activities. He claimed Mizuhara had secretly stolen his funds to pay off debts Mizuhara al-

legedly owed to an illegal bookmaker. He said that, up until last week, he had no knowledge of Mizuhara’s gambling activities; of media inquiries to his representatives asking about wire payments made from his accounts to that of [See Ohtani, A9]

# U.S. abstains as U.N. issues demand for Gaza cease-fire

Israel cancels talks in Washington in wake of reversal by the Biden administration.

By TRACY WILKINSON AND NABIH BULOS

WASHINGTON — In a significant reversal, the Biden administration Monday allowed passage of a U.N. resolution demanding an immediate cease-fire in Gaza — the first such call to emerge from the world body in more than five months of conflict that has claimed thousands of lives. The U.S. decision to abstain — instead of issuing a veto — marked the strongest testament to date of Washington’s mounting impatience with Israel’s conduct during the war, as relations between the allies have be-

gun to sour. It is almost unheard of for the U.S. to fail to side with Israel at the United Nations. Yet it remained unclear whether, or how quickly, Israel or the Hamas militant group would feel obliged to lay down their arms. Ahead of the 14-0 vote at U.N. headquarters in New York, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu threatened to cancel the visit of an official Israeli delegation to Washington if the U.S. did not veto the measure. Minutes after the vote by the Security Council, Netanyahu made good on the threat, scrapping the trip and saying any cease-fire should be conditioned on the release of hostages seized by Hamas in its Oct. 7 attack on Israel. The resolution calls for a halt to fighting for the roughly two weeks that re-

[See Cease-fire, A4]

## LETTER FROM WASHINGTON

# Trump is serious about deportation

If reelected, he could legally expel many migrants, and some analysts say he would.

DOYLE McMANUS

Former President Trump has focused relentlessly on illegal immigration as a centerpiece of his campaign for the White House, just as when he first ran in 2016. “They’re poisoning the blood of our country,” he has said of undocumented migrants, using language redolent of the racist doctrines of Adolf Hitler. He promises to launch “the biggest domestic de-

portation campaign in American history” on Day One of his new presidency. His chief immigration advisor, Santa Monica-born Stephen Miller, has spelled out what that would mean: Trump would assemble “a giant force” including National Guard troops to seize undocumented migrants, transport them to camps in Texas and expel them. “A very conservative estimate would say about 10 million,” Miller told pro-Trump talk show host Charlie Kirk. If “unfriendly states” — like California — don’t want to cooperate, Miller said, Trump could order Guard units from red states like Texas to cross their borders to enforce the law. The operation would be “as daring and ambitious ... as building the Panama Canal,” Miller promised. [See McManus, A7]

# Restoring life to an ancient watershed

Reservoirs are drained as huge dam removal project advances on the Klamath River.

By IAN JAMES

HORN BROOK, Calif. — Near the California-Oregon border, reservoirs that once submerged valleys have been drained, revealing a stark landscape that had been underwater for generations. A thick layer of muddy sediment covers the sloping



BRIAN VAN DER BRUG Los Angeles Times

**THE KLAMATH RIVER** flows through the former Iron Gate Dam as it reverts to its original course.

ground, where workers have been scattering seeds and leaving meandering trails of footprints. In the cracked mud, seeds are sprouting and tiny green shoots are appearing. With water passing freely through tunnels in three dams, the Klamath River has returned to its ancient channel and is flowing unhindered for the first time in more than a century through miles of water-logged lands. Using explosives and machinery, crews began blasting and tearing into the con-

[See Watershed, A9]

## COLUMN ONE

# Painting’s journey rooted in one family’s legacy

Decades after a masterpiece was sold to Nazis in exchange for a visa, heirs have fought on two continents to reclaim it.

By KEVIN RECTOR

It was early 1939 and the window for Jews like Lilly Cassirer Neubauer to escape was rapidly closing. The Nazis had been tightening their grip on Germany, ransacking synagogues and Jewish homes and schools. Death camps would follow soon. In desperation, she surrendered an exquisite Impressionist painting in her family’s art collection for a visa to flee Germany at the dawn of World War II. Six decades later, Lilly’s grandson in San Diego made a shocking discovery: The painting had resurfaced in Europe, tied to the scion of a German industrialist family that helped finance Adolf Hitler’s rise to power. Today, Lilly’s great-grandson David Cassirer awaits a decisive ruling in the family’s long legal battle to reclaim the painting, now in a Spanish museum. The work by Camille Pissarro is estimated to be worth tens of millions of dollars. The fight isn’t only about money but family legacy and a conflict between [See Painting, A6]



MANU FERNANDEZ Associated Press

**CAMILLE PISSARRO’S** “Rue Saint-Honoré in the Afternoon. Effect of Rain,” shown at the Thyssen-Bornemisza museum in Madrid, was sold to Spain in 1993.

## USC recognizes Jewish survivors

University Medallion is given to those who provided accounts of the Holocaust to foundation. **CALIFORNIA, B1**

## High-speed rail slow to develop

Despite some progress, project is years from reality and could cost \$100 billion more than planned. **CALIFORNIA, B1**

## Trump can delay fraud collection

Court agrees to put off seizure of \$454-million civil judgment if he pays \$175 million within 10 days. **NATION, A5**

**Weather**  
Partly sunny.  
L.A. Basin: 70/50. **B6**

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