

Occupy's ironic legacy: limits on protests

Cities have tightened restrictions on demonstrators in ways that opponents say threaten free speech.

BY FRANK SHYONG

Life was upended briefly in affluent San Marino last year when a hundred or so Occupy-style protesters staged a demonstration on the lawn of a resident Wells Fargo executive.

The police chief declared the city's 28-member force "overwhelmed." So city leaders passed an ordinance that required protesters to stay 75 feet from the curb of targeted residences. Then they tightened parade permit requirements and added a measure to allow police to move obstructing protesters off sidewalks.

By the time they were finished, the only place left in San Marino where protesters could demonstrate without a permit was the median of Huntington Drive, a 60-foot-wide grassy space that runs through the center of the city.

San Marino isn't alone. Across California and the nation, Occupy protests have prompted cities to tighten restrictions on protesters and behavior in public space in ways that opponents say threaten free speech and worsen conditions for homeless people.

Governments now regulate with new vigor where protesters may stand and walk and what they can carry. Protest permits are harder to get and penalties are steeper. Camping is banned from Los Angeles parks by a new, tougher ordinance. Philadelphia and [See Occupy, A14]



AL SEIB Los Angeles Times

A CONTAINER VESSEL is unloaded after clerical workers at the ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach returned to work Wednesday, ending an eight-day strike that shut down 10 of the 14 cargo container terminals.

PORT STRIKE PART OF BIGGER FIGHT

'For the unions, it was an existential crisis' that focused on saving future jobs more than on boosting salaries.

BY WALTER HAMILTON AND RONALD D. WHITE

The eight-day strike that crippled two of the world's busiest ports reflected a clash that is playing out across the global shipping industry, as ports and their unionized workforces gird for an era of briskly expanding foreign trade.

In many ways, the strike that shut down the ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach paralleled the generational skirmishes that have ripped through factory shops and automobile assembly floors.

Cargo companies and ports want to cut costs and automate operations to compete with aggressive rivals in Canada and South America. That is pitting them against unions, which are struggling to preserve high-paying jobs for their middle-class members.

"For the unions, it was an existential crisis," said Jock O'Connell, an international trade economist. "For the employers it was just business."

The port strike was resolved late Tuesday amid pressure from political and business leaders who feared the economic fallout of a lengthy work stoppage in the holiday season.

In a sign of the stakes involved, the strike did not resolve around salaries or job security for current workers. Rather, the dispute centered on the contention by the 800-member International Longshore and Warehouse Union Local 63 Office Clerical Unit that employers were whittling down its membership by replacing retiring workers with nonunion personnel in other states and countries.

That rankled union members who see themselves as a bulwark preserving middle-class jobs for future generations.

"These are jobs for their kids and their kids' kids," said Los Angeles City Councilman Joe Buscaino, who lives in San Pedro. "These are men and women who live [See Ports, A14]

AT A CROSSROADS

First AME, heavily in debt, struggles to regain its footing in South L.A. as a former pastor battles for control of the church

BY ANGEL JENNINGS

As the pastor of the oldest black church in Los Angeles, the Rev. John J. Hunter earned a generous salary, lived in a \$2-million home and drove a Mercedes-Benz paid for by the church. His wife earned \$147,000 a year running nonprofit organizations connected to the 19,000-member congregation.

But over the last few years, the hill-top church in the West Adams district has fallen into debt.

The First African Methodist Episcopal Church owes nearly \$500,000 to creditors. Some vendors say they have not been paid in more than a year.

The financial woes have sparked an ugly battle for control of the church and its nonprofit corporations.

A civil lawsuit filed by the church this week accuses the former pastor, his wife and a small "cabal" of church



RICK LOOMIS Los Angeles Times

THE REV. John Hunter, who was ousted as First AME's pastor in late October, is being sued by the South L.A. congregation over alleged improprieties.

leaders of "holding dictatorial control over [the church] ... for their own personal gain — both financially and for self-aggrandizement."

The bishop who oversees AME churches in the western United States abruptly transferred Hunter to a church in San Francisco in late October. But that church took the rare step of rejecting Hunter. On the day he was supposed to deliver his first sermon, church members physically blocked him from taking the pulpit.

Now Hunter is fighting to regain his position as pastor at First African Methodist Episcopal. He continues to live in the posh Encino home that the church pays for while the new pastor, the Rev. J. Edgar Boyd, lives in a hotel and is not receiving a salary. Hunter's wife, Denise, is also refusing to relinquish control of the church's nonprofit organizations, according to the lawsuit.

Hunter has had a rocky tenure at [See Church, A17]

DAVE BRUBECK, 1920 - 2012

Pianist pushed jazz boundaries

One of the genre's most popular artists, the composer married unorthodox rhythms with classical forms.

BY DON HECKMAN

In the strait-laced Eisenhower 1950s, Dave Brubeck seemed, on one hand, deeply conventional. He didn't drink, smoke or take drugs. He favored expressions like "baloney!" and "you bet" over ruder alternatives. He had a prodigious work ethic that had been ground into him by his cowboy father on the family's California cattle ranch.

But rebellion was in Bru-

beck's soul. Schooled in piano by his musically gifted mother, he became a jazz man — outwardly square but quintessentially cool — whose genius at marrying spontaneity and unorthodox rhythms with classical forms became an enduring legacy.

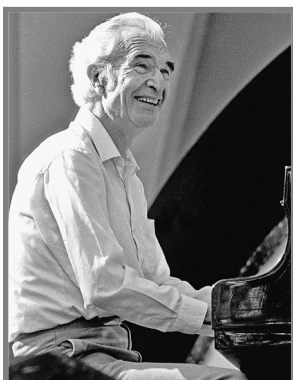
Brubeck, the pianist and composer who pushed the boundaries of jazz for six decades and became one of the genre's most popular artists, died Wednesday, a day before his 92nd birthday.

The jazz maestro, who had a history of heart trouble, became unresponsive on his way to a medical appointment, said his long-time manager and producer Russell Gloyd. Brubeck's son, who was in the car with him, rushed him to a hospital in Norwalk, Conn., where he was pronounced dead.

Jazz guitarist Kenny Burrell called Brubeck "a true musical giant. He helped to keep jazz at a truly high level and he was very consistent in both his performance and composition."

He was best known for his work with his classic Dave Brubeck Quartet, which included longtime musical partner Paul Desmond on alto saxophone, Eugene Wright on bass and Joe Morello on drums. Brubeck's innovative ideas generated an enthusiastic response from a new audience of young listeners — as well as the players most directly connected with his music.

"When Dave is playing his [See Brubeck, A11]



Los Angeles Times

AN APPRECIATION

Dave Brubeck, at the Playboy Jazz Festival in 1989, was an inventive and approachable performer. **CALENDAR**



CAROLYN COLE Los Angeles Times

JOE ALONSO, the Episcopal cathedral's master stonemason, climbs to a pinnacle on the south transept. The pinnacle rotated several inches in the quake.

COLUMN ONE

Back to its former glory

Master stonemason Joe Alonso is redoing some of his life's work to fix quake damage to the Washington National Cathedral.

BY TIMOTHY M. PHELPS REPORTING FROM WASHINGTON

The earth shook under the nation's church, snapping some of the 53 carillon bells' cables and causing them to ring in forbidding disharmony.

Outside, cracks appeared on some of the wing-

like flying buttresses supporting the 100-foot walls and intricate stone arches that mark the Washington National Cathedral as one of the world's greatest Gothic churches.

Still the ground shuddered, coursing energy upward to the grimacing or mirthful gargoyles and the 152 pinnacles that rise like twirled candy above the sheet lead roof. The force, a raging river pressed into a narrow gully, became ever more concentrated as it flowed into the twin 234-foot west towers and the 301-foot central tower.

The tops of 50-ton pinnacles started swaying from north to south, then dancing like raindrops upon

their pedestals. Crockets, finials and other ornaments, hand-chiseled by generations of mostly Italian carvers, started falling with booms that master stonemason Joe Alonso, outside on the grounds in his truck, thought were explosions.

Twenty-one years before, Alonso had put the Episcopal cathedral's last stone in place, capping the nearly century-long effort to create a "house of prayer for all people," the scene of events etched into the nation's memory. When former President Reagan died in 2004, his state funeral there drew 4,000 people, including 36 kings, presidents and prime ministers. [See Cathedral, A12]

Back to work

The end of the strike at the L.A. and Long Beach ports eases concerns of those who rely on them for their livelihoods.

BUSINESS, B1



Animated conversation

Five directors of animated films come together to talk about the artistic and business demands of the medium.

THE ENVELOPE

Weather
Gradual clearing.
L.A. Basin: 70/54. **AA8**
Complete Index ... AA2

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