

# Concert colossus is sued over its power

Justice Department seeks to break up Ticketmaster's owner, alleging 'stranglehold' on the industry.

By August Brown

The Department of Justice on Thursday announced that it had filed a lawsuit against Ticketmaster's Beverly Hills-based parent, Live Nation Entertainment, seeking to break up the company over allegations that it created an illegal monopoly over the live entertainment industry.

The government, joined by 29 states and the District of Columbia, accuses Live Nation of using its power to dominate the industry by forcing venues into exclusive ticketing contracts and influencing artists to use only its services, threatening its competitors with financial retribution.

"Live Nation and its wholly owned subsidiary, Ticketmaster, have used that power and influence to insert themselves at the center and the edges of virtually every aspect of the live music ecosystem," the lawsuit alleges. "This has given Live Nation and Ticketmaster the opportunity to freeze innovation and bend the industry to their own benefit. While this may be a boon to Live Nation's bottom line, there is a real cost to Americans."

Live Nation controls more than 265 concert venues in North America and manages more than 400 musical artists, according to the Justice Department. The suit is seeking a jury trial.

California Atty. Gen. Rob Bonta, who joined the suit against Live Nation, said in an interview with The Times on Thursday that "there's dominance and control by Live Nation in three aspects of the music industry — pro-

**Would a breakup cut ticket prices?**  
Splitting the company wouldn't be easy, and it's unclear what would result. **BUSINESS, A8**



**SHAINA SAVOY** scales a limestone wall at Robbers Roost in the Spring Mountains of Nevada on May 13. In the Vegas area, world-class climbing is easily accessible year-round.

# Las Vegas gains toehold as a top outdoors destination

Beyond the Strip, adventurers are settling down just '15 minutes from trailheads where you can be completely alone' without the drag of living in a van

By Jack Dolan | Reporting from Las Vegas

For many, the lure of Las Vegas is the near-complete immersion in a man-made world.

Visitors bury themselves deep inside temperature-controlled casinos, surrounded by artificial lights and sounds, with no windows or even clocks to remind them that the outside world still exists.

It's one of the *indoors-iest* places on the planet.

But just outside the city, about 20 minutes from the bachelor parties and slot machines, a growing number of elite outdoor athletes are buying homes, starting families and declaring Las Vegas the adventure sports capital of the United States.

"It just has unparalleled access to the outdoors," said Alex Honnold, the world's most famous rock climber and subject of the Academy Award-winning documentary "Free Solo," about his breathtaking 2017 ascent of Yosemite's El Capitan, a nearly vertical granite wall that rises 3,000 feet above the valley floor.

It was first climbed in 1958 by a team who took 18 months searching for tiny protrusions and cracks to use as holds and driving heavy metal spikes into the rock where no natural holds existed. Honnold shocked the climbing world by using only his hands and feet —

[See Vegas, A5]

# Riot police descend on new UCLA encampment



**A GROUP** of protesters locks arms while police move in as pro-Palestinian students erect a new solidarity encampment on Thursday on the UCLA campus.

Officers face off against pro-Palestinian protesters as tensions rise amid a strike by academic workers.

By Hannah Fry, Caroline Petrow-Cohen, Connor Sheets and Howard Blume

More than two dozen officers in riot gear descended on UCLA Thursday afternoon, facing off with pro-Palestinian protesters who had erected a new encampment on campus hours earlier.

The move came amid escalating tensions between pro-Palestinian students and their faculty allies and administrators on the West-

wood campus. The academic workers union announced Thursday that its ongoing strike over working conditions would expand to UCLA and UC Davis on Tuesday.

Union members contend that their free speech rights were violated when UC system leaders called on police to forcibly remove pro-Palestinian encampments at several campuses, including at UCLA.

"It's a very fraught, violent environment that the administration has created here," said Vincent Doeher, a graduate student and union member. "The disruption to campus today is coming from [the] administration shutting down this entire area due to an encampment that's simply in the courtyard of one building."

[See UCLA, A7]

# UCLA leader grilled at D.C. hearing

Block and others defend their handling of campus incidents amid concerns of antisemitism.

By Jaweed Kaleem, Andrea Castillo and Jenny Jarvie

WASHINGTON — A House committee grilled UCLA Chancellor Gene Block about pro-Palestinian protests as he faced off with lawmakers Thursday over his handling of a violent mob attack last month on a campus encampment and answered accusations that the university has failed under his leadership to address a rising tide of antisemitism.

Block, who testified alongside the presidents of Northwestern and Rutgers universities, was soft-spoken and at times vague in response to questions on UCLA administrators' role in resolving campus tensions that have grown since the Oct. 7 Hamas attack on Israel and that country's retaliatory war in the Gaza Strip.

The chancellor said he could not fully answer questions about issues including the status of students facing disciplinary action for violating UCLA rules and the state of police investigations into agitators who attacked an encampment overnight on April 30 amid an hours-long delay in police response.

"I don't know if that's ongoing," Block said of a police investigation into allegations of antisemitic threats against a UCLA professor and her husband.

"We'll see what happens," he said regarding discipline. [See Antisemitism, A6]

## Four takeaways from his testimony

At hearing, chancellor acknowledged mistakes and said antisemitism is a problem. **NATION, A6**

## Redistricting by GOP upheld

Supreme Court backs a map drawn by South Carolina lawmakers that shifted Black voters. **NATION, A4**

## Woman charged in wild pursuit

Missouri transplant is accused of crashing into police cruisers and other vehicles on the 405. **CALIFORNIA, B1**

## Diverse viewers' pivotal role

Women and people of color drive ratings for streaming films, a UCLA report finds. **CALENDAR, E1**

## Weather Drizzle

L.A. Basin: 69/55. **B6**

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