



SERGEY BOBOK AFP/Getty Images

PEOPLE carefully remove shards of glass from broken windows of a cafe after a Russian missile attack this week in Kharkiv, Ukraine.

Fearing a backlash of ruling against homeless

Liberals worry that laws hostile to the unhoused will expand broadly across West.

By KEVIN RECTOR

As the nation's highest court heard arguments this week in a case expected to shape homelessness policies in the years to come, Los Angeles County Supervisor Lindsey Horvath listened angrily.

The case involved a small Oregon town seeking to rid its streets and parks of encampments, and leaders across California had joined in calling for the Supreme Court to take up the issue, including Gov. Gavin Newsom, San Francisco Mayor London Breed and L.A. City Atty. Hydee Feldstein Soto.

But not Horvath. When the Board of Supervisors voted a couple of months ago to throw its support behind Grants Pass, Ore., (population approximately 39,000), Horvath was one of two dissenting votes. While others called for the Supreme Court to clarify whether cities have the right to enact anti-camping policies that restrict those with no shelter from sleeping outside, Horvath warned of unintended consequences.

If the high court were to rule broadly in favor of Grants Pass, which has a policy of fining and arresting homeless people who sleep outside with simple bedding, Horvath said, the precedent could "further enable cities to push people from community to community, without a commitment to housing or services."

On Monday, after the high court's conservative justices indicated during oral arguments that they are skeptical of treating homelessness as a status that deserves constitutional protection, Horvath said the future will be bleak if cities are allowed to clamp down by criminalizing poverty.

"Saying that the only way we can get ourselves out of this problem is by citing people for having a blanket on the ground or for daring to sleep on a park bench is absurd — just absurd — and I would also say immoral," she said. "All we will be doing is [See Homeless, A6]"

Life goes on amid war in Kharkiv

In the face of escalating airstrikes in the city, Ukrainians defy Russia by getting on with their routines. 'We can stand up, no matter what they do,' one resident says.

By LAURA KING

KHARKIV, Ukraine — It made for an unlovely municipal symbol, soaring but hardly graceful: the 800-foot-tall Soviet-era television tower that was for decades a familiar signature in the skyline of Ukraine's second-largest city, Kharkiv.

Ungainly though the tower may have been, the sight of its red-and-white upper mast plunging spearlike to the ground after a strike Monday by a Russian Kh-59 missile was a stinging affront to many in this city of

1.2 million people, only 25 miles from the Russian frontier.

"It's as if they want us to know they are right there across the border, that they can try to hurt us at any time of the day or night," said Andrii Tsarenko, a 23-year-old student who does volunteer relief work at his Kharkiv church. "But we can also show them that we can stand up, no matter what they do."

With Russian strikes often coming from so close by that they carry only seconds' warning — air alarms sounding even as missiles are slamming home — that task is more difficult by the day.

Kharkiv, a vibrant academic, cultural and industrial center before the February 2022 Russian invasion, is now Ukraine's most vulnerable major metropolis. Badly battered at the start of the fighting, when the front lines skirted outlying districts, the city in north-eastern Ukraine has in recent weeks come under the worst bombardment since those early days of war.

Using a mix of weaponry, including crude but lethal "glide bombs" that allow the destruction of urban targets from a safe distance, Russia has aimed punishing daily strikes at [See Ukraine, A4]

Damage at Glen Canyon Dam raises water risks on the Colorado River

Deterioration of steel tubes could force limits on releases at low reservoir levels.

By IAN JAMES

Federal officials have discovered damage inside Glen Canyon Dam that could force limits on how much Colorado River water is re-

leased at low reservoir levels, raising risks the Southwest could face shortages that were previously unforeseen.

The damage was recently detected in four 8-foot-wide steel tubes — called the river outlet works — that allow water to pass through the dam in northern Arizona when Lake Powell reaches low levels. Dam managers spotted deterioration in the tubes after conducting an exercise last year that sent

large flows from the dam into the Grand Canyon.

To reduce risks of additional damage, federal Bureau of Reclamation officials have determined that flows should be reduced in the event of low reservoir levels. The infrastructure problems at one of the country's largest dams have created new complications as water managers representing seven Western states negotiate [See Glen Canyon, A8]



JOSHUA LOTT Washington Post

GLEN CANYON Dam sits above Lake Powell and the Colorado River in Page, Ariz. Infrastructure problems have created new complications for water managers.

Students are teaching us the importance of protests



WALLY SKALIJJ Los Angeles Times

LAPD OFFICERS apprehend students who were protesting against the war in Gaza at USC on Wednesday. Some colleges and universities have closed their campuses in the wake of protests.

MARY McNAMARA

Pro-Palestinian protests continue to spread on American campuses for one simple reason: They are working.

You do not have to agree with the protesters' politics and demands — which in most cases involve universities divesting from firms that contribute to the Israeli war effort — or their methods, such as setting up tent encampments on shared spaces, to acknowledge that the demonstrations are doing exactly what student demonstrations almost always do.

That is, force this country to face issues that many would prefer to ignore or dismiss.

Including if, and how, students should be allowed to gather and make their feelings known.

Let's settle that last issue right now: Of course students are allowed to protest. This country is quite literally built on protest, and we take pride in the many student demonstrations that have regularly contributed to changes in policy and [See Protests, A8]



Trump's lawyers grill key witness

Defense team seeks to discredit testimony of ex-National Enquirer publisher. **NATION, A5**

Pet cremation service criticized

Owners say company took their money but never returned the remains. **CALIFORNIA, B1**

Why Ohtani isn't a Blue Jay

Dodgers feared they had lost the star amid rumors of a flight to Toronto. **SPORTS, B10**

Weather

Mostly sunny. L.A. Basin: 72/53. **B8**

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