

Chicago Tribune



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BREAKING NEWS AT CHICAGOTRIBUNE.COM

DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL CONVENTION

‘Restore our rights’

Democrats push abortion access as potentially key issue to win voters in November



Gov. JB Pritzker, with Lt. Gov. Juliana Stratton, announces the Illinois delegation's votes during the roll call for Vice President Kamala Harris and Minnesota Gov. Tim Walz at the United Center on Tuesday during the Democratic National Convention. **BRIAN CASSELLA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE**

First arrestees appear in court as police praise response to security fence breach

By Sam Charles, Madeline Buckley, Sylvan Lebrun and Laura Rodríguez Presa
Chicago Tribune

Three people among those arrested after the breach of a security fence near the Democratic National Convention site appeared in court Tuesday, while police brass praised their response to the situation and continued to address other threats.

During a morning hearing at a North Side police area headquarters, Judge Mary Marubio ordered two of the protesters released and ordered them to stay away from the United Center area for the rest of the convention.

A third protester, an 18-year-old Chicago man, appeared before a judge Tuesday evening, after prosecutors said he refused for most of the day to tell the officers who he was. Prosecutors said he headbutted an officer as they struggled to detain him, causing the officer to fall and sustain a concussion.

During the only detention hearing so far related to convention demonstrations, Assistant State’s Attorney Jennifer Walsh alleged that the man, charged with felony counts of aggravated battery to a police officer and resisting arrest as well as misdemeanor counts of resisting arrest and obstruct-

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Activists scuffle with police officers outside the Israeli Consulate in downtown Chicago while protesting the war in Gaza on Tuesday. **ARMANDO L. SANCHEZ/CHICAGO TRIBUNE**

Party’s stance on law-and-order politics altered drastically since ’96 convention

By Jeremy Gorner
Chicago Tribune

The last time Chicago hosted the Democratic National Convention, Joe Biden was a U.S. senator who gave a nine-minute speech praising President Bill Clinton’s leadership in securing a tough new anti-crime law.

“We’ll continue to get tough with kids who break the law. Gang members and other young people who commit violent crimes will do jail time. We’ll not allow young thugs to terrorize our neighborhoods,” Biden told delegates in August 1996 at

the United Center, where they had gathered to nominate Clinton for a second term.

The Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act was the Clinton administration’s response to the intense levels of street violence that beset Chicago and the rest of urban America in the 1990s. Biden was a Senate sponsor of the measure, commonly known as the Crime Bill, and in his convention speech he celebrated a law that emphasized penalty enhancements for some crimes, set aside

Turn to Crime, Page 4

‘THE FULL SPECTRUM OF CHICAGO’: This week during the convention, local historian Shermann “Dilla” Thomas will lead two free tours daily for delegates and politicians, taking them to neighborhoods on the South and West sides not often seen by tourists. Thomas aims to introduce visitors to the city’s history and highlight what he calls “policy in action.” **Page 3**

■ Palestinian and Jewish runners hit the lakefront to advocate for peace. **Page 6**

Forget the late-night speeches and the glitz and spectacle. All the real action is happening over at McCormick Place

By Christopher Borrelli
Chicago Tribune

About midway through the first day of the Democratic National Convention, a delegate from California stopped on the second floor of the Hyatt Regency and locked eyes with a member of the media and held herself very still, like a tree in a violent storm. Around both of them speed-walked delegates from other states and politicians from large towns and staffers of politicians and campaign workers and camera crews pushing carts loaded with canvas

luggage. The woman looked alarmed. The member of the media stopped and tilted his head as if to ask, do you need help?

After a second, the delegate from California finally spoke and pointed west:

“Is the United Center that way?”

She seemed to mean, at the end of that long hotel hallway? The United Center, she was informed, was about three and a half miles that way. She was standing in the Hyatt attached to McCormick Place. She looked profoundly confused by McCormick, which, to be fair to her, is the only accept-

Evening address was homecoming for Obama family

By Rick Pearson, Olivia Olander and Jeremy Gorner
Chicago Tribune

Democrats and allied groups used the second day of the party’s national convention to promote their outreach to women on the issue of abortion rights, believing it can continue to be a powerful motivator among voters against a Republican ticket led by former President Donald Trump.

EMILY’s List, a Democratic-aligned group that supports women candidates who back abortion rights, contended gains the party made in the 2022 midterm elections can be expanded this year, particularly among younger women.

And Planned Parenthood’s political action committee, along with Everytown for Gun Safety, announced Tuesday a combined \$1 million digital ad campaign in battleground states to promote the Democratic presidential nominee, Vice President Kamala Harris, and her support on the combined issues of reproductive rights and gun control.

Gov. JB Pritzker, an ardent and longtime abortion rights advocate, used his speech at the convention as host-state governor to say business leaders in some states are having trouble filling jobs because “anti-freedom, anti-family policies of MAGA Republicans are driving workers away.” MAGA was a reference to Trump’s Make America Great Again campaign motto.

“Here’s the thing. Americans don’t want to be forced to drive 100 miles to deliver a baby because a draconian abortion law shut down the maternity ward. Americans want the hope of giving birth through (in vitro fertilization), not the fear it might

Turn to DNC, Page 6

Colbert’s love letter to Chicago

Stephen Colbert, in town to film “The Late Show” during convention week, returns with love and laughter to the city that jump-started his comedic career. **Arts & Living**

‘Always going to be a champion’

Memories of 2016’s magic came rushing back as Javier Báez made his first visit back to Wrigley Field on Tuesday since being traded three years ago. **Chicago Sports**

Stellantis will delay reopening

Automaker says plans to reopen its Belvidere Assembly Plant are on hold, prompting UAW to threaten a strike over what it says would be a contract violation. **Business**

