

# Chicago Tribune



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WEDNESDAY, MAY 22, 2024

BREAKING NEWS AT CHICAGOTRIBUNE.COM

## ShotSpotter's future faces last stand

Supporters say system helps gun victims by getting them critical aid more quickly

By Jake Sheridan  
Chicago Tribune

The desperate supporters of the embattled ShotSpotter gunshot detection system have clung to one last argument in the hopes of keeping the expensive technology online in Chicago.

As they push back against Mayor Brandon Johnson's plan to rid the city of the around \$9-million-a-year policing tool — and aldermen prepare Wednesday to vote on whether to take some control of the program — they repeatedly argue ShotSpotter helps keep gunshot victims alive by getting

them critical aid more quickly, even when no one calls 911. "The real measure of ShotSpotter's value is in the stories of lives saved," wrote Ralph Clark, CEO of ShotSpotter's parent company, SoundThinking, in a Chicago Defender op-ed. This focus on how many people ShotSpotter has helped is a recent emphasis for backers of the technology, who long concentrated mainly on it helping police lock up offenders and reduce crime. Both

arguments have relied largely on anecdotal evidence, and high-profile studies have called into question the crimefighting aspect. But as the City Council decides if it will take the power to cancel ShotSpotter out of Johnson's hands, new Chicago Police Department data paints a clearer picture of how often the sensors get gunshot victims potentially life-saving help. Since January 2021, police have rendered aid to 103 gunshot

victims after receiving a ShotSpotter alert and no related 911 calls, according to data compiled by the Police Department and shared with aldermen. Rendered aid refers to a wide range of first-aid — from wound dressing to tourniquets and chest seals — but does not mean the victim ultimately survived their wounds. Still, for ShotSpotter's City Council champion, Ald. David

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DePaul student journalists Ryan Hinske, from left, Nadine DeCero, Vanessa Lopez (back to camera), Zoe Hanna, Jake Cox and Lilly Keller work on stories in their newsroom at DePaul University in Chicago on Friday. ANTONIO PEREZ/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

## STUDENT JOURNALISTS ASSUME THE SPOTLIGHT

Campus newspapers tell story of nationwide protests against Israel-Hamas war



DePaul University student Lucia Preziosi, news editor of the student newspaper The DePaulia, is seen at the school's pro-Palestinian encampment on May 10. TERRENCE ANTONIO JAMES/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

**"I don't think you can understate the importance of the student press. They've outmaneuvered the professional press, in many of these cases."**

— Roger Boye, an associate professor emeritus-in-service at Northwestern's Medill School of Journalism

By Kate Armanini | Chicago Tribune

It was an unusual gathering. Amid a torrential downpour, two high-ranking University of Notre Dame officials and a handful of student organizers huddled under a tree late at night. The students had attempted to erect a pro-Palestine encampment on campus May 2. Now, they hoped to negotiate. Four reporters with the university's student newspaper, the Observer, watched from afar. They were soaking wet from hours in the rain. They were also the only journalists on campus, where pre-clearance is required for outside media.

"In that moment, it was very much like, 'We need to document this story,'" said junior Isa Sheikh, the newspaper's editor-in-chief. "We were the only outlet on the ground." When 17 students were arrested later that night, the Observer was the first to break the news. They worked in their office until 4 a.m. the next day. "Staying up all night in the midst of finals wasn't great," Sheikh said with a laugh. "But for me, the first priority is the paper and our coverage of the campus."

Student journalists across the Midwest and the country have been thrust into the spotlight as protests against Israel war on Gaza engulfed universities. With firsthand campus knowledge, they have provided some of the most detailed, compelling coverage of the movement that swept the country. In Chicago, Palestine solidarity encampments have been assembled at Northwestern University, the University of Chicago

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## Beware: Ticks have numbers, will attach

More kinds and longer season as experts warn state 'at the front line'

By Avani Kalra  
Chicago Tribune

As tick season approaches, experts warn that Illinois residents should be even more wary as the type of ticks in the state increases and the season lengthens. Researchers discovered the Asian longhorned tick — an invasive species native to Japan, Korea and parts of China and Russia — in Illinois in April. First reported in the United States in 2017, the tick has since spread to 20 states. "The role that this tick will play in the transmission of infections in humans is yet to be determined," the Illinois Department of Public Health said in a recent statement. But the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention says the tick is not likely to increase the spread of Lyme disease or cause a significant nuisance for humans. Instead, according to Mark Ernst, a veterinarian with the Illinois Department of Agriculture, the longhorned tick is most likely to affect cattle. Though the longhorned tick generally targets cattle, Maureen Murray, assistant director of the Urban Wildlife Institute at Lincoln Park Zoo, said Chicago residents should be on the lookout for other types of ticks. Tick patterns tend to vary significantly from year to year, Murray said, but one consistency has been a movement in tick

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### INSIDE



VINCENT ALBAN/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

### Kyle Hendricks moved to the bullpen

The Cubs' veteran right-hander to be used in relief at least through next turn in the rotation and maybe longer. **Chicago Sports**

### Lakeshore East brings in the Funke

Review: Tre Dita, the Italian restaurant with steak and a pasta lab by celebrated chef Evan Funke in Chicago. **Food & Health**

### WeWork to give up Fulton Market spot

The bankrupt co-working giant will keep eight of nine Chicago locations, but Fulton Market space goes to startup Workbox. **Business**

## Defense rests without Trump testifying

Jurors away until closing arguments, expected May 28

By Michael R. Sisak,  
Jake Offenhartz  
and Jill Colvin  
Associated Press

NEW YORK — Donald Trump's lawyers rested their defense Tuesday without the former president taking the witness stand in his New York

hush money criminal trial, moving the case closer to the moment when the jury will begin deciding his fate. "Your honor, the defense rests," Trump lawyer Todd Blanche told the judge. Trump's team concluded with testimony from a former federal prosecutor who had been called to attack the credibility of the prosecution's key witness, one of two people summoned to the stand by the defense. The Manhattan district attorney's office called

20 witnesses over 15 days of testimony before resting its case Monday. The jury was sent home for a week, until May 28, when closing arguments are expected, but the attorneys returned to the courtroom to discuss how the judge will instruct jurors on deliberations, a sort of road map meant to help them apply the law to the evidence and testimony. The two sides haggled over word choices, legal phrases and descriptions of campaign-related issues.

Trump, the first former American president to be tried criminally, did not answer questions about why he did not testify. Trump had previously said he wanted to take the witness stand in his own defense, but there was no requirement or even expectation that he do so. Defendants routinely decline to testify. His attorneys, instead of mounting an effort to demonstrate Trump's innocence to jurors, focused on

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