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United States Government & Politics

Weekly Current Events: 4.17.23

[Weissert and Davies, “NRA Convention Draws Presidential Hopefuls,” AP News, 4.15.23.](https://apnews.com/article/nra-republicans-trump-2024-mass-shootings-cd211ab3c074c89354a17211108d00b1)

1. What special interest group held this annual conference?
2. What is this group’s mission/beliefs?
3. Describe this conference, and the context in which it is held.
4. List two people who spoke and what they said or suggested.
5. How did attendees at the convention receive the different leading Republicans and potential candidates? Why?

[Qin, “How Brandon Johnson Won Chicago Mayor’s Race,” Chicago Sun-Times, 4.9.23.](https://chicago.suntimes.com/city-hall/2023/4/9/23674139/by-numbers-johnson-won-mayor-race-vallas-chicago)

1. Who were the two candidates in the Chicago Mayor’s race?
2. Who won, and by how much of the vote?
3. What media outlet called the race? Was it too early to do so?
4. If there were still votes to be counted, is/was it possible to reverse this outcome?
5. The article compares these two candidates’ performance in the primary election with the run-off. What can be determined from the two?
6. What demographic voting trends could be seen?
7. What changes in voter turnout helped Johnson?

**Primary Campaign Ads:** A competitive gubernatorial race in Kentucky, and a pro-Trump PAC both issued interesting primary campaign spots last week.

[KY Gov Candidate Kelly Craft’s “Anti-Woke” ad](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZKRZn8RtQcY) | [MAGA PAC DeSantis Pudding Fingers](https://nypost.com/2023/04/14/trump-pac-says-desantis-put-pudding-fingers-into-benefits/)

1. What is the strategy of the ad?
2. What voting audience is the ad trying to reach?
3. What claim does the ad make?
4. What evidence does the ad provide?
5. What symbols/visuals does the ad emphasize?
6. Is the ad convincing? Why or why not?