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Subject: Afternoon Clips – Thursday, February 18, 2016

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Governor Nikki Haley News:

Greenville News: Rubio brings out Haley, Scott, Gowdy and more in Upstate stops

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/2016/02/18/rubio-brings-out-haley-scott-gowdy-and-more-upstate-stops/80548308/>

Amanda Coyne

Sen. Marco Rubio brought out a full bench of high-profile South Carolina supporters to his stops in the Upstate on Thursday, including Gov. Nikki Haley, whose coveted endorsement he announced in Chapin on Wednesday evening, in the home stretch of the Republican presidential primary campaign.

Note: Standing with Gowdy, Scott and Rubio at the end of the Thursday morning event, Haley remarked at the diversity of the lawmakers on stage. "Take a picture of this, because the new group of conservatives taking on America looks like a Benetton commercial," Haley said.

Note: Haley and Rubio, both first-generation Americans, touched upon their parents' efforts to give them better lives in America than they would have in their parents' home countries. When Haley was considering who to endorse, she first approached the decision as a mother, she said.

Note: "I wanted the opportunity for my children to have a better life, just like my parents did," Haley said.

Post and Courier: Nikki Haley on the road with Marco Rubio: 'I hope we're the new face of the conservative movement'

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160218/PC1603/160219363>

Cynthia Roldan

Gov. Nikki Haley said Thursday she hoped she and presidential candidate Marco Rubio are the new face of the conservative movement in the Republican Party.

Note: "It's not just the two of us," Haley said. "It's a lot of us. If you look at all of the people that are trying to say 'wake up guys, this is not the country our parents wanted for us.' That's a compliment to say we're the new movement."

Note: Haley added her plate was full. "I have a senior getting ready to go to college and a son in middle school," Haley said. "And I love the people of South Carolina."

ABC News: What Nikki Haley's Endorsement May Mean for Marco Rubio

<http://abcnews.go.com/Politics/nikki-haleys-endorsement-marco-rubio/story?id=37027246>

Veronica Stracqualursi

South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley threw her support behind presidential hopeful Marco Rubio Wednesday, ahead of the state's Republican primary Saturday — the jewel in the crown of Rubio's Palmetto State endorsements. Haley's nod could be a big boost for Rubio.

Note: And she's been showering Rubio with praise. "I wanted somebody with fight. I wanted somebody with passion. I wanted somebody that had conviction to do the right thing, but I wanted somebody humble enough that remembers that you work for all the people," Haley said Wednesday at a campaign event alongside Rubio in Chapin, South Carolina.

TIME: What Nikki Haley's Endorsement Means

<http://time.com/4228801/what-nikki-haleys-endorsement-means/>

Zeke Miller

Marco Rubio secured the endorsement of South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley, who has already cut an ad for the Florida senator to air in the state. Seeking to present a vision of a more forward-looking and welcoming GOP, Haley and Rubio highlighted their shared biography—both are the children of first-generation immigrants—as they counter the message of GOP front-runner Donald Trump.

Wall Street Journal: Nikki Haley bets against the Trump monster: How the GOP governor is making a play

for the future of the party

<http://blogs.wsj.com/washwire/2016/02/18/marco-rubio-hits-inclusive-notes-with-nikki-haley-tim-scott-trey-gowdy-at-side/>

Josh Dawsey

Sen. Marco Rubio appeared with Gov. Nikki Haley and Sen. Tim Scott at Crossfit gym here Thursday, trying to strike a more inclusive tone and chip away support from other Republicans two days ahead of the crucial primary vote.

Note: Rep. Trey Gowdy, a popular Upstate Republican, also joined Mr. Rubio. As the politicians left the stage, Ms. Haley suggested the crowd take a picture of the face of the Republican Party.

Note: Mr. Rubio and Mr. Haley are expected to barnstorm the state before Saturday and had several other stops scheduled Thursday. She had weighed an endorsement for several weeks, and Mr. Rubio's aides are trying to leverage support from the popular governor.

Post and Courier (Video): Marco Rubio's campaign releases new ad featuring Gov. Nikki Haley

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160218/PC1603/160219368>

The Marco Rubio for President campaign on Thursday released a new ad featuring S.C. Gov. Nikki Haley. In the ad, Haley explains why she endorsed Rubio and sees him as the right leader for the future.

Note: "As the wife of combat Veteran," Haley says. "I know Marco will keep America safe."

Island Packet: Rubio to hold rally on Hilton Head Island on Friday

<http://www.islandpacket.com/news/politics-government/election/article61037462.html>

Matt McNab

Republican presidential candidate Marco Rubio will make one final stop in Beaufort County on Friday in advance of Saturday's primary. The U.S. senator from Florida will hold a rally at Signature Flight Support near Hilton Head Airport Friday afternoon as he crisscrosses South Carolina on a last-minute plane tour.

Note: Rubio trailed New York businessman Donald Trump and Sen. Ted Cruz, R-Texas, in polls released by CNN and Fox News this week, but picked up an endorsement from Gov. Nikki Haley on Wednesday.

Politico: Nikki Haley: Conservatives taking over America look 'like a Benetton commercial'

<http://www.politico.com/blogs/south-carolina-primary-2016-live-updates-and-results/2016/02/nikki-haley-2016-campaign-marco-rubio-219427#ixzz40YhjT8Fq>

Shane Goldmacher

Marco Rubio sure is reveling in his latest South Carolina endorsements — and the diverse and generational contrast it provides his candidacy. One by one, Rubio (44 and Cuban-American) summoned them on stage to close a rally at a Crossfit studio in Greenville: Rep. Trey Gowdy (51 and white), Sen. Tim Scott (50 and African-American) and Gov. Nikki Haley (44 and Indian-American).

Note: But Haley, whose endorsement of Rubio on Wednesday has given his campaign a big boost days before Saturday's primary, put a punctuation mark on the event. "Take of picture of this," she instructed the crowd and the cameras. "Because this new group of conservatives taking over America looks like a Benetton commercial."

New York Times: Donald Trump Turns His Fire on Nikki Haley

<http://www.nytimes.com/politics/first-draft/2016/02/18/donald-trump-turns-his-fire-on-nikki-haley/>

Trip Gabriel

Donald J. Trump, who had kind words for Gov. Nikki Haley of South Carolina early in the week, ripped into her as weak on immigration on Wednesday after she endorsed Senator Marco Rubio, and the crowd of Trump supporters booed the mention of her name.

Note: Ms. Haley, whose endorsement is a major boost for Mr. Rubio as Republicans head to the polls on Saturday, has served as a foil in Trump speeches ever since she urged voters last month to avoid "the angriest voices."

Greenville News: State sets another record in exports

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/2016/02/18/state-sets-another-record-exports/80556872/>

Michael Burns

South Carolina has set a record for total export sales for the sixth consecutive year, according to the state Department of Commerce, with Greer's BMW plant contributing mightily to figures that rank South Carolina as the nation's top exporter of completed passenger motor vehicles and 15th in exports overall.

Note: "Companies continue to trust the people of South Carolina to build their products because they make up a workforce that has built a remarkable reputation as one of the best in the world," said Gov. Nikki Haley.

"The fact that Team South Carolina has accomplished another record year in export sales proves that our economy is on the move, but with new companies investing in our state all the time, it's clear that we're just getting started."

Greenville News: Lawsuit aims to stop resettlement of refugees to South Carolina

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/local/pickens-county/2016/02/17/lawsuit-aims-stop-resettlement-refugees-south-carolina/80501526/>

Ron Barnett

A Richland County man has filed a lawsuit seeking to stop the resettlement of refugees in South Carolina in order to protect the state from "criminals, narco-drug traffickers, terrorists, rapist(s)" and people "hostile to assimilation and the laws of South Carolina."

Note: The suit names as defendants Gov. Nikki Haley, the state Department of Social Services and two nonprofit agencies that help refugees start new lives in the state.

S.C. Presidential Primary News:

USA Today: Cruz and Rubio zoom past Bush in final S.C. advertising

<http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/onpolitics/2016/02/18/cruz-and-rubio-zoom-past-bush-final-sc-advertising/80565274/>

Fredreka Schouten

Republican presidential candidates Ted Cruz and Marco Rubio are winning the last-minute TV advertising war in South Carolina, a new tally shows. Cruz, Rubio and the groups supporting them have aired 4,904 and 3,882 ads, respectively, in the Palmetto State in the past two weeks, outpacing the number of ads run by Bush and his deep-pocketed super PAC, according to a tally released Thursday by the Wesleyan Media Project.

The State: Polls: Donald Trump still leading in SC Republican primary

<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/politics-columns-blogs/the-buzz/article61079972.html>

Jamie Self

Four new polls out Thursday show New York billionaire Donald Trump holding his lead in Saturday's Republican presidential primary. Trump averaged 32 percent support from S.C. Republicans in the surveys. U.S. Sens. Ted Cruz and Marco Rubio are battling for second place, with Cruz and Rubio averaging 18 percent and 16 percent, respectively.

Post and Courier: Pope Francis says Donald Trump isn't Christian

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160218/PC1601/160219358>

Deanna Pan

Asked about Donald Trump's views on immigration, Pope Francis said anyone who wants to build a wall along the U.S.-Mexican border isn't Christian. "A person who thinks only about building walls, wherever they may be, and not building bridges, is not Christian," Francis said. "This is not in the Gospel."

The State: Major SC donor hopes Trump inspires more business leaders to run for office

<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/politics-columns-blogs/the-buzz/article61087987.html#storylink=cpy>

Andrew Shain

Bill Stern, one of the South Carolina's major GOP political donors, always asked himself the same question about politics — and he's convinced that he finally found an answer. "Being in business, I've always wondered why government can't run like a well-run business," the Columbia commercial real-estate developer told The State.

Post and Courier: Mayor Keith Summey endorses Donald Trump for president today

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160218/PC1603/160219355>

Schuyler Kropf

North Charleston Mayor Keith Summey is endorsing Donald Trump for president in Saturday's Republican primary, The Post and Courier has learned. Summey met with the GOP front-runner Thursday afternoon in North Charleston to solidify his support. The backing could be significant if Summey, a 22-year incumbent, can get North Charleston voters to follow suit.

Post and Courier: Gov. John Kasich rallies by saying he can best beat Hillary Clinton

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160218/PC16/160219352>

David Slade

Two days ahead of the South Carolina Republican primary election, Ohio Gov. John Kasich was rallying campaign workers, citing two national polls that said he would defeat Democrat Hillary Clinton more decisively than any GOP rival. Kasich, who finished second behind Donald Trump in the New Hampshire primary, told volunteers the sun is rising on his campaign after "we walked in obscurity for a long time."

The State: SC voter voices: Why I like my 2016 GOP candidate

<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/politics-columns-blogs/the-buzz/article61039022.html>

Andrew Shain

If you plan to cast a ballot in Saturday's GOP presidential primary, who do you plan to vote for? Here is what some S.C. GOP voters had to say about who they plan to vote for from the six remaining 2016 Republican presidential candidates. See videos of these voters, with this story online at thestate.com.

Rock Hill Herald: Kasich to campaign in Indian Land Thursday; Bush in Rock Hill; Trump in Gaffney

<http://www.heraldonline.com/news/local/article61029762.html#storylink=cpy>

Republican presidential candidate John Kasich will appear at a town hall-style session Thursday evening in Indian Land. The Ohio governor, who is polling in the middle of the GOP pack in recent surveys, will speak at at 6 p.m. at the Sun City Carolina Lakes retirement community. Doors open at 5:30 p.m.

S.C. General Assembly News:

Post and Courier: S.C. bill would require department policy for officer-involved deaths

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160218/PC1603/160219346>

Gavin Jackson

State senators gave unanimous key approval Thursday for a bill that would require police departments to have a written policy on how to handle officer-involved deaths. Sen. Gerald Malloy, D-Hartsville, introduced the bill 10 days after Walter Scott was shot and killed in North Charleston by police officer Michael Slager last April. Malloy said the bill isn't in direct response to the shooting, but rather the need for good public policy.

Note: Leon Lott, has said he believes his department can do a better job than SLED. But critics of Lott's stance, including Gov. Nikki Haley, say it's wrong for agencies to investigate their own officers.

Greenville News: Senator throws monkey wrench at I-73

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/politics/2016/02/18/senator-throws-monkey-wrench--73/80548832/>

Tim Smith

Sen. Tom Davis, a Beaufort Republican who for a second day held the Senate podium to talk about accountability at the state Department of Transportation, argued that DOT holds millions of dollars in federal earmarked funds that can be used on highway projects different than those the money was received for if the earmarks are 10 years or older.

Note: Gov. Nikki Haley last year told lawmakers she would approve a 10-cent increase in the gas tax but only if lawmakers also scrapped the current method of picking highway commissioners and provided income tax relief.

Greenville News: Senate gives key approval to coal ash bill

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/politics/2016/02/18/senate-gives-key-approval-coal-ash-bill/80561190/>

Tim Smith

The Senate without opposition has given key approval to a bill that would require that any disposal in South Carolina of utilities' coal ash be limited to Class 3 landfills. The 39-0 vote Thursday came with little debate and two days after the Senate Judiciary Committee sent the measure to the floor. The House-passed bill amended by the Senate will go to the House once it receives final approval by the Senate.

Associated Press: Senators: High DSS caseloads mean children still at risk

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=Sg4xYn47

Despite the hiring of 170 caseworkers, high caseloads continue in South Carolina's troubled Department of Social Services. Deputy director Taron Davis told a Senate panel this week there are still 73 caseworkers in the state responsible for more than 50 children. Davis acknowledges one Anderson County caseworker is

responsible for 119 children.

Opinion / Editorial Roundup:

Daily Caller: It's Nikki Haley's Party

<http://dailycaller.com/2016/02/18/its-nikki-haleys-party/>

Matt K. Lewis

For a long time now, I've been talking about 21st century conservatism—about why we should modernize, but not moderate—and about how conservatism is the best philosophy for anyone who wants to achieve the American Dream. I even wrote a book about it.

Note: Well, South Carolina Governor Nikki Haley's endorsement of Marco Rubio yesterday taps into this theme. Here you have the daughter of immigrants endorsing the son of immigrants for the Republican nomination to run for the most important job in the world.

Post and Courier: Post and Courier editorial board endorses John Kasich

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160218/PC1002/160219347>

Editorial

Americans remain deeply divided on a wide range of public policy issues. But reasonable, realistic people on both sides of that daunting political gap recognize the pressing need for bipartisan solutions to our nation's problems — and for a president who can advance that indispensable cause.

South Carolina News:

Washington Post: Gowdy cites progress in Benghazi probe as Dems scoff

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/powerpost/wp/2016/02/18/republican-promises-benghazi-panel-report-as-soon-as-possible/>

Elise Viebeck

Ranking Member Elijah Cummings (D-Md.) is waiting for relevant federal agencies to review transcripts from interviews with White House national security adviser Susan Rice, deputy national security adviser Ben Rhodes, former Defense Secretary Leon Panetta and former CIA director David Petraeus before releasing them to the public, an aide said on Thursday.

Associated Press: Members of Congress to make civil rights pilgrimage to SC

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=369vVJGu

Bruce Smith

As many as three dozen members of Congress are expected in South Carolina next month to explore the role the state has played in the fight for civil rights and to worship at the Charleston church where nine black parishioners were gunned down last year. The Faith and Politics Institute announced Thursday that the three-day Pilgrimage to South Carolina will be held starting March 18.

Associated Press: Growth continues on the docks in Charleston

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=dpzCgGMn

The growth continues at the state's ports with the South Carolina Ports Authority reporting that container volume is up 5 percent since the fiscal year started last July. The ports have handled the equivalent of about 1 million 20-foot shipping containers. Because containers are of various sizes, volume is reported in terms of 20 foot containers.

Associated Press: 2 South Carolina court justices interested in top job

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=rT644m1p

The two senior associate justices on the South Carolina Supreme Court appear to be interested in the top job. Associate justices Don Beatty of Spartanburg and John Kittredge of Greenville have picked up application materials for chief justice, The State newspaper (<http://bit.ly/1QnPARy>) reported.

Local News:

Associated Press: Charleston mayor wants to help homeless evicted from tents

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=OK1RE56O

As Charleston evicts people from a tent city near an Interstate 26 ramp, Mayor John Tecklenburg is seeking donations for a fund to help them find permanent homes. Tecklenburg announced Wednesday that the city

is starting the Homeless to Hope Fund, according to local media reports.

National News:

Associated Press: Pope on Trump: Anyone who wants border walls isn't Christian

<http://www.thestate.com/news/nation-world/world/article61055987.html>

Nicole Winfield

Pope Francis said Thursday that Donald Trump is "not Christian" if he intends to build a wall along the U.S.-Mexican border. Trump immediately fired back, saying it is disgraceful for a religious leader to question a person's faith.

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