

From: Symmes, Brian <BrianSymmes@gov.sc.gov>
To:
Date: 2/19/2016 3:31:04 PM
Subject: Afternoon Clips – Friday, February 19, 2016

Afternoon Clips – Friday, February 19, 2016

Governor Nikki Haley News:

Washington Post: For Rubio and his trio of S.C. surrogates, 'a Benetton commercial'

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/post-politics/wp/2016/02/19/for-rubio-and-his-trio-of-s-c-surrogates-a-benetton-commercial/>

Philip Rucker, Robert Costa

For a Republican Party caricatured by navy blazers and starched skirts, Sen. Marco Rubio and his eclectic trio of surrogates tried to offer a different image as they barnstormed South Carolina on Friday.

Note: Joining Rubio at a morning campaign rally in Columbia, Gov. Nikki Haley summoned Sen. Tim Scott and Rep. Trey Gowdy onstage and told the crowd: "You're going to look at what the new conservative movement looks like — because it looks like a Benetton commercial."

New York Times: A Donald Trump Victory Could Clash With South Carolina's Self-Image

<http://www.nytimes.com/2016/02/20/us/politics/a-donald-trump-victory-could-clash-with-south-carolinas-self-image.html?smprod=nytcore-iphone&smid=nytcore-iphone-share>

Alexander Burns

Republicans in South Carolina have in recent years raced ahead of the national party in presenting an inclusive face to voters: Since 2010, the state has elected an Indian-American governor and the country's only black Republican senator, and its Republican-controlled Legislature voted last summer to remove the Confederate battle flag from the grounds of the Capitol.

Note: In South Carolina, Gov. Nikki R. Haley, the state's first nonwhite governor, and Senator Tim Scott, the first black senator elected from the South since Reconstruction, have both backed Senator Marco Rubio of Florida as an alternative to Mr. Trump.

Note: Better representations of South Carolina, Mr. Pitts said, were Ms. Haley and Mr. Scott's huge election margins in 2014.

Note: The shooting, which a young white supremacist is accused of carrying out, prompted Ms. Haley and state lawmakers to endorse the removal of the Confederate battle flag from the State House.

The State: Rubio pledges attention to families, military at Columbia rally

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/article61290942.html>

Tim Flach

Republican presidential contender Marco Rubio fired up supporters Friday with promises to make the nation's economy and military stronger while reducing partisan bickering. The U.S. senator from Florida portrayed himself as someone who understand middle-class struggles and the need to combat terrorism overseas while bringing all sides together politically.

Note: Rubio's comments came at an appearance with political allies — Gov. Nikki Haley, U.S. Sen. Tim Scott of North Charleston and U.S. Rep. Trey Gowdy of Spartanburg — on the eve of South Carolina's Republican presidential primary.

Washington Post: The Daily 202: Will South Carolina Republicans buy that Marco Rubio is just as conservative as Ted Cruz?

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/powerpost/paloma/daily-202/2016/02/19/daily-202-will-south-carolina-republicans-buy-that-marco-rubio-is-just-as-conservative-as-ted-cruz/56c694fc981b92a22d2708c7/>

James Hohmann

Marco Rubio continues to round up more endorsements from the establishment wing of the Republican Party. Kansas Sen. Pat Roberts backed him yesterday, for example, and Bob Dole told National Review that the Florida senator is his second choice after Jeb Bush.

Note: Rubio himself has used the endorsement of Gov. Nikki Haley to repeatedly remind everyone that he ran for Senate in 2010 as a tea party candidate against Charlie Crist. Haley, too, took on the GOP

establishment favorite in a crowded primary that year.

FiveThirtyEight: What's At Stake In The South Carolina Republican Primary

<http://fivethirtyeight.com/features/whats-at-stake-in-the-south-carolina-republican-primary/>

Nate Silver

We've been inundated with polls: South Carolina polls, Nevada polls, national polls, general election polls. In fact, there are so many polls that you can tell yourself pretty much any story you like about the Republican presidential primary. Is Ted Cruz surging? There's a poll for that. Is Cruz stalling out?

Note: With a slightly lesser but still high degree of confidence we can say that Marco Rubio has gained ground: He was at 13.1 percent in our South Carolina polling average before Iowa¹ and is at 16.8 percent now.

Note: Rubio is nearly tied with Cruz for second place in the polls-plus forecast, but that's because polls-plus gives Rubio some credit for his growing lead in endorsements — including the backing of South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley.

Note: That endorses such as Haley threw their support to Rubio even after his New Hampshire debacle is partly a reflection of Rubio's resilience — he was reasonably good in last week's debate, and his polls have held up pretty well — but also an indictment of Bush, Kasich and the other alternatives.

Politico: Insiders predict Trump win in South Carolina, Clinton in Nevada

<http://www.politico.com/story/2016/02/insiders-predict-trump-win-in-south-carolina-clinton-in-nevada-219459#ixzz40eDi54ck>

Steven Shepard

Donald Trump is poised for his second win of the Republican presidential primary season on Saturday in South Carolina. And Hillary Clinton looks as if she'll eke out a victory in Nevada. That's according to the activists, strategists and operatives who make up The POLITICO Caucus in both states.

Note: The Republicans who said Trump would fall short on Saturday cited momentum for Rubio following the endorsement of GOP Gov. Nikki Haley and Cruz's strong ground game in the state.

Gannett: For Kasich, no win in S.C., but chance to spread message

<http://www.cincinnati.com/story/news/politics/elections/2016/02/19/john-kasich-south-carolina-primary-hug/80598328/>

Chrissie Thompson

South Carolina was supposed to be too conservative for John Kasich. In many ways, it is. Kasich is averaging less than 10 percent in recent GOP polls here and doesn't expect to repeat his New Hampshire runner-up performance when South Carolina Republicans vote Saturday in the GOP's third nominating contest.

Note: This week, he campaigned with a powerful team of establishment GOP endorsers. Standing with South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley, Sen. Tim Scott and Rep. Trey Gowdy, Rubio said he could unite Republicans. The politicians, who represent four different racial and ethnic backgrounds, sought to show an inclusive GOP. "Take a picture of this, because the new group of conservatives taking on America looks like a Benetton commercial," Haley said in Greenville.

Associated Press: Bush, seeking a much-needed revival in SC, calls in family

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=DuK6outz

Thomas Beaumont

Jeb Bush has long kept his family at arm's length in his effort to become commander-in-chief, but with the South Carolina primary looming, he's embracing them like never before in the state that has historically stood by the Bush family in its previous White House bids.

Note: On an outdoor campaign stop in Summerville Wednesday, Bush fielded more advice on how to improve his underperforming campaign than questions about policy. That was the same day Rubio won the prized endorsement of South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley, even after she met with George W. Bush in Columbia.

Aiken Standard: Aiken Mayor Rick Osbon endorses Marco Rubio

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/article/20160218/AIK0101/160219417>

Christina Cleveland

A day after presidential candidate Marco Rubio landed an endorsement from Gov. Nikki Haley, many Aiken County elected officials said they are not planning to make a public endorsement, with some expressing they are still deciding between the dwindling field of candidates.

Note: Osborn told the Aiken Standard he feels endorsements like Haley's could make a difference in the primary, but for him, he feels Rubio is prepared for the position.

S.C. Presidential Primary News:

Associated Press: Republican 2016 hopefuls get emotional on eve of SC primary

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=Wych9Da

Steve Peoples, Bill Barrow

The Republican battle for South Carolina turned deeply personal on the eve of Saturday's high-stakes presidential primary, as New York businessman Donald Trump eyed a delegate sweep and his Republican rivals fought for a southern surprise. Texas Sen. Ted Cruz, the son of a pastor, evoked "the body of Christ" in his closing message while fending off allegations of campaign misconduct in a state where most Republicans identify as evangelical Christians.

Greenville News: Trump leads by smaller margin in Palmetto Poll

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/politics/elections/2016/02/19/trump-leads-smaller-margin-palmetto-poll/80602766/>

Nathaniel Cary

Donald Trump still leads the GOP presidential field in the latest poll of likely South Carolina voters, but his lead has shrunk compared to other recent polls, according to a new Clemson University Palmetto Poll released Friday.

Note: Among respondents who voted in at least two of the last three state primary elections, 28 percent said they would vote for Trump, compared to 19 percent for Ted Cruz, 15 percent for Marco Rubio, 10 percent for Jeb Bush, 9 percent for John Kasich and 6 percent for Ben Carson. Thirteen percent were undecided.

Post and Courier: New Clemson poll: Trump still in the lead in S.C.

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160219/PC16/160219300/new-clemson-poll-trump-still-in-the-lead-in-sc>

Robert Behre

The latest poll is no surprise: Donald Trump is expected to win South Carolina's Republican presidential primary Saturday. The Clemson University Palmetto Poll found Trump with 28 percent, while his closest rival was Sen. Ted Cruz, with 19 percent. Sen. Marco Rubio placed third with 15 percent, and former Florida Gov. Jeb Bush, had 9 percent.

CNN: South Carolina poll: Cruz gaining on Trump, Clinton ahead

<http://www.cnn.com/2016/02/19/politics/south-carolina-poll-donald-trump-ted-cruz-nbc-wsj/>

David Wright

Though Donald Trump continues to lead heading in to South Carolina's primary Saturday, a new poll suggests his support could be fading in the campaign's final days. According to the NBC News/Wall Street Journal/Marist survey released Friday, the billionaire businessman leads the Republican race in the Palmetto State with 28% support. Texas Sen. Ted Cruz is in second at 23%.

Anderson Independent: Clemson poll: Trump leads among past primary voters

<http://www.independentmail.com/news/clemson-poll-trump-leads-among-past-primary-voters-2c21f5a3-3451-4107-e053-0100007f927f-369424341.html>

Kirk Brown

Donald Trump is leading the GOP presidential field among South Carolinians who voted in recent primaries, according to results of a Clemson University Palmetto Poll released Friday. According to the poll, Trump received support from 28 percent of respondents who voted in two of the last three state primary elections.

New York Times: 'Unfavorable' Signs for Ted Cruz in South Carolina

http://www.nytimes.com/2016/02/20/upshot/unfavorable-signs-for-ted-cruz-in-south-carolina.html?em_pos=small&emc=edit_up_20160219&nl=upshot&nl_art=2&nlid=69406041&ref=headline&te=1

Nate Cohn

The Ted Cruz campaign has made it very clear how it believes its candidate can win the nomination: by unifying the party's ideologically consistent and self-described "very conservative" base with the somewhat more populist, evangelical voters who make up the party's rank and file in the South.

Post and Courier: No single candidate may end up with all of South Carolina's delegates

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160219/PC1603/160219295/no-single-candidate-may-end-up-with-all-of-south-carolina-x2019-s-delegates>

Robert Behre

Only one GOP presidential hopeful will finish on top Saturday after all the votes are counted in South Carolina's primary, but history says at least one other candidate is likely to get some help. Whoever receives the most votes statewide Saturday will get 29 of the state's 50 delegates — enough to take over first place.

Sun News: Cruz rallies supporters in Myrtle Beach

<http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/news/politics-government/article61303647.html>

Elizabeth Townsend

On the eve of the South Carolina Republican Primary, Texas Senator Ted Cruz delivered one last stump speech in Myrtle Beach at the Springmaid Resort Friday morning, after "Duck Dynasty" patriarch Phil Robertson warmed up the crowd.

Spartanburg Herald Journal: Jeb, Barbara Bush campaign at Wade's Restaurant

<http://www.goupstate.com/article/20160219/articles/160219550?tc=ar>

Less than 24 hours before voting begins in the S.C. Republican presidential primary, Jeb Bush was joined by his mother, former first lady Barbara Bush in Spartanburg. Bush made a campaign stop at Wade's Restaurant. Flanked by U.S. Sen. Lindsey Graham, Bush emphasized his readiness to be the nation's next commander-in-chief.

The State: Sanford endorses Cruz for president

<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/politics-columns-blogs/the-buzz/article61315877.html>

Andrew Shain

U.S. Rep. Mark Sanford, R-Charleston, endorsed U.S. Sen. Ted Cruz for president during a rally in Charleston on Friday, according to multiple reports. His endorsement comes a day before the S.C. GOP presidential primary. The rally included appearances by Phil Robertson from the "Duck Dynasty" reality television show and talk show host Sean Hannity.

Index-Journal: Republican lawmakers weigh options ahead of Saturday primary

<http://indexjournal.com/news/Republican-lawmakers-weigh-options-ahead-of-Saturday-primary>

Colin Riddle

As the first-in-the-South Republican primary approaches, a number of state leaders have announced endorsements of candidates in the past week, while local leaders are still weighing their options. "You want to be thoughtful, and you want to pick the right guy," said state Rep. Craig Gagnon, R-Abbeville, who jokingly shared he was endorsing "Mr. Undecided."

Post and Courier: Jim Clyburn endorses Hillary Clinton for president

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160219/PC1603/160219297/jim-clyburn-endorses-hillary-clinton-for-president>

Cynthia Roldan

Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Clinton received South Carolina's most coveted Democratic endorsement when Congressman Jim Clyburn announced this morning he was backing her White House bid. Clyburn, arguably the state's most influential black lawmaker, has been hinting for a week he would endorse Clinton, after initially saying he would remain neutral.

The State: SC's Jim Clyburn endorses Hillary Clinton in presidential race

<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/politics-columns-blogs/the-buzz/article61285522.html>

Jamie Self

Hillary Clinton won the backing of U.S. Rep. Jim Clyburn, South Carolina's most prominent Democrat on Friday. "My heart has been with Hillary Clinton since day one," Clyburn said at the announcement at Allen University, a historically black college in Columbia.

Politico: Rep. Jim Clyburn officially endorses Hillary Clinton

<http://www.politico.com/blogs/south-carolina-primary-2016-live-updates-and-results/2016/02/jim-clyburn-endorses-hillary-clinton-219493>

Nick Gass

Rep. Jim Clyburn (D-S.C.) made official his endorsement of Hillary Clinton for president on Friday, declaring her the candidate best positioned to conquer a range of challenges, including income inequality to education

and health care.

Washington Post: Citing family entreaties and a close Nev. caucus contest, Rep. Jim Clyburn of S.C. endorses Clinton

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/post-politics/wp/2016/02/19/citing-family-entreaties-and-a-close-nevada-caucus-contest-s-c-rep-jim-clyburn-endorses-clinton/>

Abby Phillip

U.S. Rep. Jim Clyburn of South Carolina endorsed Hillary Clinton in the Democratic presidential primary on Friday, one week before voters in the state go to the polls and a day before Nevada Democrats caucus in a closer-than-expected race with Vermont Sen. Bernie Sanders.

Associated Press: Top SC Democrat endorses Hillary Clinton, mending rift

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=YpO5YFHP

Jeffrey Collins

Jim Clyburn, South Carolina's top Democrat, endorsed Hillary Clinton for president Friday, mending a rift between the two that was much more personal than political. Clyburn said Friday "my heart has always been with Hillary Clinton," a sharp departure from eight years ago when former President Bill Clinton called him on the phone at 2:15 a.m. after his wife lost the 2008 South Carolina primary against Barack Obama.

Opinion / Editorial Roundup:

Greenville News: Hillary Clinton is best pick for Democrats

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/opinion/editorials/2016/02/19/hillary-clinton-best-pick-democrats/80508858/>

Editorial

When South Carolina Democrats go to the polls Saturday they will be faced with an imperfect choice. Both Hillary Clinton and Bernie Sanders have appealing sides: She as an experienced statesperson and he as a maverick outsider. Both also carry significant baggage that could hinder a general election bid.

South Carolina News:

The State: Lead tainted water in SC communities

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/article61283287.html>

Sammy Fretwell

Lead has tainted drinking water in more than two dozen South Carolina communities during the past five years at levels that exceed a federal safety standard, according to data released Friday by the S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control.

Note: The department said people should not be unduly alarmed because homeowners can take simple steps to avoid lead exposure. Letting cold water run for about 30 seconds before drinking or cooking with it should flush out most lead from lead and copper pipes, Baize said.

Associated Press: State appeals court won't hear SC cruise case before May

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

Attorneys will wait a few more months before arguing over a state permit for a \$35 million passenger cruise terminal in downtown Charleston. The State Court of Appeals had indicated it would hear the case in December, but scheduling conflicts have delayed the matter. The court has informed attorneys the court is considering scheduling the case in May.

Local News:

Associated Press: Florida company creating more than 80 jobs near Greenville

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=15qal1et

A Florida produce company is expanding to Greenville County where it expects to create more than 80 jobs during the next five years. Sun City Produce, a subsidiary of Sun Commodities of Pompano Beach, Florida, announced Thursday it is setting up a distribution center in Piedmont.

Brian Symmes

Cell: 803-673-9437
Office: 803-734-0304