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Subject: Afternoon Clips – Monday, February 29, 2016

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Gov. Nikki Haley stumps for Sen. Rubio in Atlanta:

Washington Post: Nikki Haley steps in for a raspy Rubio and steps out as a voice for anti-Trump Republicans

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/post-politics/wp/2016/02/29/nikki-haley-steps-in-for-a-raspy-rubio-and-steps-out-as-a-voice-for-anti-trump-republicans/>

Robert Costa

Marco Rubio's voice was hoarse. Nikki Haley's was not. So it was the 44-year-old South Carolina governor, not the 44-year-old Florida senator, who gave most of the remarks at a rally here Monday afternoon, taking Rubio's latest caustic riffs about Donald Trump and making them her own.

Note: "I have to tell you, Donald Trump is everything I taught my children not to do in kindergarten," Haley said, standing alongside Rubio. Haley added that she also taught her two young children to defend themselves: "When a bully hits you, you hit that bully right back!"

Note: Haley's fiery speech on the eve of the Super Tuesday contests captured Rubio's candidacy at the moment: increasingly personal in its attacks on Trump and quickly becoming the main vessel for mainstream Republicans but far from a sure bet for the nomination.

Note: "Now let's get serious," Haley implored, ticking through a list of Trump's past business projects that have drawn controversy.

Note: "We've seen it with Trump Vodka, we've seen it with Trump mortgage, we've seen it with all of his Trump endeavors. And right now he's being sued for fraud with Trump University. Every single one of them has failed," Haley said. "Now he wants to run for president. This is not a game. We are not a project."

New York Times: Nikki Haley Faults Donald Trump for Not Condemning White Supremacists

<http://www.nytimes.com/politics/first-draft/2016/02/29/nikki-haley-faults-donald-trump-for-not-condemning-white-supremacists/>

Jeremy W. Peters

Gov. Nikki Haley of South Carolina, campaigning here on Monday with Senator Marco Rubio, joined the growing number of outraged Republicans who are condemning Donald J. Trump for not speaking out against white supremacy more forcefully.

Note: "The K.K.K. came to South Carolina from out of state to protest on our Statehouse grounds," she told a ballroom of more than 1,500 Rubio supporters at a hotel in the Buckhead section of Atlanta on Monday, eliciting boos as she mentioned the Klan. "We saw and looked at true hate in the eyes last year in Charleston," she added. "I will not stop until we fight a man that chooses not to disavow the K.K.K. That is not a part of our party. That is not who we are."

Politico: Nikki Haley tag teams with Rubio on Trump attacks

<http://www.politico.com/blogs/2016-gop-primary-live-updates-and-results/2016/02/nikki-haley-marco-rubio-trump-attacks-219975#ixzz41avTfpNX>

Eliza Collins

Nikki Haley is now tag teaming with Marco Rubio in going after Donald Trump. At a rally in Atlanta, Georgia the day before Super Tuesday, Haley slammed the real estate mogul's failed business ventures and the fact that he didn't disavow the Ku Klux Klan during a CNN interview over the weekend.

Note: "Donald Trump is one who goes after project after project after project," Haley said, before listing multiple ventures that were no longer successful. "Every single one of them has failed and now he wants to run for president? This is not a game. We're not a project."

Note: "We saw and looked at true hate in the eyes last year in Charleston. I will not stop until we fight a man that chooses not to disavow the KKK. That is not a part of our party. That is not who we want as president."

Note: The governor said that she was an accountant and there was nothing that precludes Trump from sharing his returns while being audited. "Donald Trump show us your tax returns," she said forcefully.

Note: When Rubio took the stage, he praised Haley. "If you ever need to be pumped up...you call Nikki Haley and she'll get you going, it'll be unreal," the Florida senator said. "That is what our party is about."

Rock Hill Herald: SC Gov. Haley condemns Trump's refusal to disavow the KKK

<http://www.heraldonline.com/news/state/south-carolina/article63160317.html>

South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley slammed Republican presidential hopeful Donald Trump for choosing not to disavow the endorsement from former KKK leader David Duke.

Note: "We saw and looked at true hate in the eyes last year in Charleston," Haley said while stumping at an Atlanta rally with Marco Rubio. "I will not stop until we fight a man that chooses not to disavow the KKK. That is not a part of our party, that is not who we want as president. We allow not allow that in our country."

Washington Times: Marco Rubio loses voice, Nikki Haley pinch-hits at Atlanta rally

<http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2016/feb/29/rubio-loses-voice-nikki-haley-pinch-hits-rally/>

S.A. Miller

Republican presidential candidate Sen. Marco Rubio lost his voice Monday and brought in South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley to help lead a rally and make his closing argument a day before Super Tuesday.

Note: "When you work hard and you fight hard these things happen. When these things happen, you call your friends," Mrs. Haley told a crowd of about 1,000 supporters at the Intercontinental Buckhead Atlanta hotel.

The Hill: Nikki Haley knocks Trump over KKK

<http://thehill.com/blogs/ballot-box/presidential-races/271177-nikki-haley-knocks-trump-over-kkk>

Jesse Byrnes

South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley, a surrogate for Marco Rubio's presidential campaign, went after Donald Trump on Monday after the GOP front-runner waved off questions about the Ku Klux Klan. Haley referenced the debate last summer over removing the Confederate symbol from the South Carolina statehouse following a mass shooting at an historic African-American church in Charleston by a white gunman pictured in photos holding a Confederate flag.

Note: "The KKK came to South Carolina from out of state to protest on our statehouse grounds. We saw and looked at true hate in the eyes last year in Charleston," Haley said, speaking alongside Rubio at a rally in Atlanta.

Note: "I will not stop until we fight a man that chooses not to disavow the KKK," Haley continued. "That is not a part of our party, that is not who we want as president. We we allow not allow that in our country."

Bloomberg: Republicans Jump on Trump for Failing to Rebuke David Duke

<http://www.bloomberg.com/politics/articles/2016-02-29/trump-blames-faulty-earpiece-for-failure-to-condemn-david-duke>

Angela Greiling Keane

The Republican Party began to fracture over its presidential front-runner, Donald Trump, as Nebraska Senator Ben Sasse vowed never to support the billionaire and Mitt Romney said his remarks over the weekend about the Ku Klux Klan were "disqualifying and disgusting."

'Not our party' South Carolina Governor Nikki Haley, a Republican who has endorsed Rubio, criticized Trump for his comments. "I will not stop fighting a man who refuses to disavow the KKK," she said Monday in Atlanta. "That's not who we are and not our party."

Associated Press: GOP Badly Split as Trump, Clinton Seek Super Tuesday Wins

<http://abcnews.go.com/Politics/wireStory/racial-feud-erupts-republicans-fight-unstoppable-trump-37276429>

Julie Pace, Jill Colvin

On the eve of Super Tuesday's crucial primaries, a sharp new divide erupted between Republicans who pledge to fall in line behind Donald Trump if he wins their party's nomination and others who insist they can never back the bombastic billionaire.

Note: Mitt Romney, the party's 2012 nominee, called that "disqualifying." And South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley, campaigning in Atlanta alongside Florida Sen. Marco Rubio, said she would "not stop fighting a man who refuses to disavow the KKK."

Politico: Trump's rivals assail him for wavering on KKK

Ahead of Super Tuesday, the GOP is using the latest scandal to urge voters to forswear the Republican frontrunner.

<http://www.politico.com/story/2016/02/donald-trump-kkk-219985#ixzz41azdTylf>

Nolan D. McCaskill

Donald Trump's Republican enemies are frantically pointing to his reluctance to disavow the Ku Klux Klan as just the latest evidence that the billionaire businessman isn't fit to be president. But Trump, undeterred, predicted on Monday he will do "phenomenally with the African-Americans" and will stun his rivals on Super Tuesday.

Note: South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley, who endorsed Rubio ahead of her state's primary and joined him at a rally in Atlanta on Friday, slammed Trump. Haley drew national media attention during a push to have the Confederate flag removed from the statehouse following a church shooting in Charleston that left nine African-American parishioners dead.

Note: "I will not stop until we fight a man that chooses not to disavow the KKK," Haley said. "That is not a part of our party. That is not who we want as president."

The Hill: Rubio loses voice before rally

<http://thehill.com/blogs/ballot-box/271156-rubio-loses-voice-ahead-of-rally>

Rebecca Savransky

Republican presidential candidate Marco Rubio lost his voice on Monday ahead of a campaign event. Rubio was introduced by South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley, who endorsed him earlier this month, at the event. Haley told the crowd that Rubio had lost his voice.

Real Clear Politics: Rubio: A Vote For Trump Is A Vote for Hillary

http://www.realclearpolitics.com/video/2016/02/29/rubio_a_vote_for_trump_is_a_vote_for_hillary.html

Ian Schwartz

On the campaign trail Monday, presidential candidate Sen. Marco Rubio warned if Donald Trump is the Republican party's nominee then Hillary Clinton will be the next president. Rubio said a vote for Trump is a vote for Hillary. Rubio was flanked by South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley (R) at a campaign event at the InterContinental Hotel in Atlanta. Haley endorsed Rubio prior to South Carolina's Republican primary.

Governor Nikki Haley News:

TIME: Republican Lawmakers Divide Over Trump as Super Tuesday Looms

<http://time.com/4241237/donald-trump-republican-endorsements/>

Tess Berenson

As Donald Trump moves closer to sewing up the nomination, Republican lawmakers are publicly deciding whether to back Trump—or back away from him. He has nailed some of his first major endorsements in recent days by elected officials, but just as many others have thrown their weight behind other candidates and aim to take him down as the crucial Super Tuesday primaries loom.

Nikki Haley: The South Carolina Governor has thrown her weight behind Rubio and has pivoted to attacking Trump in recent days along with him. "Donald Trump is everything we teach our kids not to do in kindergarten," Haley said recently, according to The Post and Courier. "We have seen behavior over and over again that is just unacceptable... I think what we saw from Marco is what we tell our children also: If a bully hits you, you hit back." This shows that since Rubio's performance in the most recent Republican debate when he came out swinging at Trump, other politicians who back him (South Carolina Rep. Trey Gowdy and Sen. Tim Scott, for example) may become more vocal in their opposition to Trump, as well.

Politico: 'All the Money Is on Trump': An Election Gambler Predicts Super Tuesday

<http://www.politico.com/magazine/story/2016/02/2016-elections-gambler-predicts-213687#ixzz41aw6jJjM>

Paul Krishnamurty

From the market's perspective, it's nearly all over. All the smart money is now on Trump. Before the Nevada caucuses, Trump had hardened to about 53 percent for the nomination—the highest he's been since January. Suddenly he surged past 70 percent, a new record—and he kept going.

Thank Nikki Haley for Cruz's free-fall

The moment of the Nikki Haley endorsement was a turning point for Ted Cruz. Almost from the moment of her speech, Rubio's and Cruz's number start to move—Rubio went from a 26 percent chance to win the nomination to 42 percent, and for the presidency, 12 percent up to 18 percent.

The good news: Jeb finally kicks the can

Again, it comes back to Haley. The Haley endorsement was an absolute death knell for Jeb Bush. Before the endorsement, Bush was about 11 percent for the nomination; within hours of the Haley announcement, he was down to 4 percent, then 3 percent, for the nomination—maybe even less. He was just collapsing.

S.C. Receives HUD Disaster Allocation:

Associated Press: South Carolina awarded combined \$157M for flooding recovery

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=2AUxjULf

South Carolina and two counties hardest hit by last fall's catastrophic flooding will share \$157 million from the federal government. U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Secretary Julian Castro announced the disaster recovery awards Monday. The state will receive nearly \$97 million. Richland County will receive \$23.5 million.

Note: Gov. Nikki Haley had asked the state's congressional delegation for \$140 million to help repair poor residents' homes.

Post and Courier: Feds step in with \$157 million to help S.C. flood recovery

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160229/PC1603/160229317>

Cynthia Roldan

South Carolina will be receiving \$157 million in federal cash to help communities devastated by October's floods. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development announced Monday the money will go to cover the remaining unmet needs of state and local governments, which include housing, economic development and infrastructure.

The State: S.C. getting nearly \$157 million in federal aid for flood recovery

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/article63131177.html#storylink=cpy>

Avery G. Wilks

South Carolina is receiving nearly \$157 million in federal aid to help pay for recovery from floods last fall. Nearly 62 percent of the funds will go to state agencies. The rest is divvied up among Richland County, Lexington County and the city of Columbia.

Note: Congress in December approved \$300 million in disaster recovery funds for communities nationwide hit with major flooding in 2015, but it was unknown until Monday how much South Carolina would receive. Gov. Nikki Haley had asked the federal government for \$140 million to repair flood-damaged housing.

Post and Courier: Feds step in with \$157 million to help S.C. flood recovery

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WIS: South Carolina, Midlands getting \$157 million in flood recovery funds

<http://www.wistv.com/story/31343759/south-carolina-midlands-getting-157-million-in-flood-recovery-funds>

Jeremy Turnage

Several South Carolina communities will be awarded \$157 million to help with disaster recovery efforts following significant rainfall and flooding in October of last year. The US Department of Housing and Urban Development says the funds will help to meet remaining unmet housing, economic development, and infrastructure needs that resulted from thousands of homes and small businesses being damaged or destroyed.

S.C. General Assembly News:

Post and Courier: Palmetto Sunrise: Second Amendment Preservation Act up for debate in House this week

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160229/PC1603/160229330>

Maya T. Prabhu

A bill introduced by Rep. Mike Pitts, R-Laurens, that would prohibit South Carolina from enforcing any federal laws that limit Second Amendment rights is scheduled for debate in the House this week. The proposal also would not allow South Carolina to spend state money to enforce those laws or accept federal funds related to any new regulations.

Post and Courier: Charleston senator re-evaluating bill that regulates installation of large utility poles

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160229/PC1603/160229312>

Maya T. Prabhu

A Charleston senator is deciding if his bill regulating utility poles and other construction is necessary after a hearing last week with SCE&G revealed the problem may have solved itself. Sen. Marlon Kimpson, a Democrat, pre-filed the legislation in late 2014 that would prevent electric companies from installing large projects without notifying residents.

S.C. Political News:

Associated Press: Trump's SC backers don't think KKK flap will affect support

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=HH0jaUxl

Meg Kinnard

Several high-profile South Carolina supporters of Donald Trump say they're still backing the billionaire businessman after a flap over his immediate refusal to denounce an implicit endorsement from a former Ku Klux Klan leader. Former South Carolina Ports Authority chairman Bill Stern and former Lt. Gov. Andre Bauer said Monday they are standing behind the Republican presidential front-runner even though he has been challenged on his recent reaction to questions about support from former KKK Grand Dragon David Duke and other white supremacists.

Rock Hill Herald: Tega Cay Democrat, former Gamecock announces Congress run

<http://www.heraldonline.com/news/local/article63115527.html>

Bristow Marchant

A Tega Cay Democrat, ex-Gamecock and former aide to Vice President Joe Biden has announced plans to run for Congress. Francis Person announced his intent to challenge Indian Land Republican Mick Mulvaney for the Fifth Congressional District seat in a YouTube video on Monday.

The State: Former Biden aide running for Congress in SC

<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/politics-columns-blogs/the-buzz/article63101062.html>

Jamie Self

A former aide to Vice President Joe Biden is running for the S.C. congressional seat held by Republican U. S. Rep. Mick Mulvaney. Fran Person, a Tega Cay Democrat and former University of South Carolina football player who worked for Biden for eight years, announced his bid for the state's 5th District congressional seat Monday.

South Carolina News:

Anderson Independent: State, Anderson County employment numbers jumped in 2015

<http://www.independentmail.com/news/state-county-employment-numbers-jumped-in-2015-2cb1213e-962b-725f-e053-0100007f2c16-370434291.html>

Abe Hardesty

South Carolina's employment numbers continued to improve in 2015, and at least one member of the Anderson County Economic Development team sees stronger growth ahead. South Carolina's total workforce and number of employed residents both climbed, and its unemployment rate fell for the fifth straight year, according to numbers released Friday by the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Post and Courier: S.C. labor force reestimate lowers overall numbers but shows record hiring in 2015

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160229/PC05/160229311>

Warren L. Wise

An annual federal reestimate of South Carolina's labor market shows fewer people were employed and the labor was smaller than the state reported at the end of 2015. Still, the report showed more people working and looking for work at year's end than ever before, according to state officials. The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reexamines the state's workforce each year with the state Department of Employment and Workforce.

Huffington Post (Video): At This Prison, Inmates Are Becoming Songwriters

<http://rise.huffingtonpost.com/watch/prison-inmates-are-becoming-songwriters>

Associated Press: Toxicology reports medical records, but coroner can discuss

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=gJJ2Vnyl

Jeffrey Collins

Toxicology reports from autopsies are medical records that cannot be released to the public, but coroners

may talk publically about the results of blood screenings for alcohol and drugs without violating federal health privacy law, according to an opinion released by the state Attorney General's Office on Monday.

Post and Courier: S.C. gas price slide comes to a halt

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160229/PC05/160229325>

Warren L. Wise

The long slide in South Carolina gasoline prices came to an end during the past week. The price rose 3 cents across the Palmetto State to an average \$1.52 a gallon, according to gas price service GasBuddy. Motor club AAA's Daily Fuel Gauge Report put the price a penny higher Monday. That's still about 58 cents lower than one year ago at this time.

Greenville News: S.C. near bottom in 'Best & Worst States for Women'

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/life/2016/02/29/sc-near-bottom-best-worst-states-women/81100112/>

Elizabeth Sanders

It's not a great day in South Carolina for women, at least based on the results of a new WalletHub survey of 2016's 'Best and Worst States for Women'. South Carolina was ranked 50th out of 51. The study looked at 15 key metrics in all 50 states and the District of Columbia.

Local News:

Post and Courier: College of Charleston students protesting cancellation of program for low-income, first-generation students

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160229/PC16/160229321>

Deanna Pan

Students at the College of Charleston will protest the cancellation of a federally funded program that benefits minority students at Cistern Yard this afternoon from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. The ROAR Scholars Program provides first-generation, low-income and disabled college students with academic advising, counseling services, cultural enrichment activities and emergency aid.

Post and Courier: Charleston ship repair businesses part of \$147.M Army contract

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160229/PC05/160229319>

John McDermott

Two Charleston-area companies are among nine firms that were awarded a \$147.7 million contract for ship repair and maintenance work on U.S. military vessels. Metal Trades Inc. of Yorges Island and North Charleston-based Detyens Shipyards Inc. will share the job with seven businesses from New Jersey, New York and Virginia.

Sun News: Kay Loftus, Horry County Board of Education member, dies Monday

<http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/news/local/article63133852.html>

Claire Byun

Kay Loftus, Horry County Schools Board of Education member, passed away Monday morning after several months of bad health. Horry County Schools officials confirmed Loftus' death Monday, noting that she served on the board for 14 years.