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Subject: Morning Clips – Monday, February 22, 2016

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Governor Nikki Haley News:

TIME: GOP Faces Divergent Paths After South Carolina

<http://time.com/4231835/republican-south-carolina-rubio-cruz-trump/>

Zeke J. Miller

Standing triumphantly on stage in South Carolina, Florida Senator Marco Rubio seemed to be the paragon of a modern, more diverse Republican Party. The symbolism was hard to miss as South Carolina's first Indian-American female governor and first African-American Senator flanked the would-be first Cuban-American President.

Note: "Take a picture of this, because the new group of conservatives that's taking over America looks like a Benetton commercial," quipped South Carolina Governor Nikki Haley of the grouping Thursday. On Saturday night, she declared Rubio the leader of their "new conservative movement."

CNN: How Marco Rubio turned it around

<http://www.cnn.com/2016/02/21/politics/marco-rubio-south-carolina-finish-strategy/index.html>

Manu Raju

Marco Rubio's rebound here in South Carolina was more than just Gov. Nikki Haley's endorsement. It was rooted in years of methodical planning, building inroads with the state's political power players, developing a deep network of donors stemming from his 2010 Senate race and hiring well-connected South Carolina-bred operatives who had circled February 20 on the calendar as a possible turning point in the race.

Note: What gave Rubio a late boost was Haley's endorsement this week, which both Rubio, Bush and Texas Sen. Ted Cruz had heavily sought. Rubio had met with Haley once, but rumors about the popular governor potentially backing the senator had persisted for weeks. It was not locked down until the day it became public, a sign that his momentum was growing.

The State: Nonprofits stepping up for vulnerable Columbia October storm survivors

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/article61676832.html>

Avery G. Wilks

Stanley Beard is thankful to be done with chasing squirrels through his north Columbia home. The furry pests for years had taken up residence with Beard, 67, a retired widower who lacked the money or physical strength to repair a hole in his home's roof.

Note: More than a dozen nonprofits so far have received funding through the One S.C. Flood Relief Fund, set up by the Central Carolina Community Foundation and endorsed by Gov. Nikki Haley.

Note: The fund's first round of grants, amounting to \$500,000, helped nonprofits repair about 350 homes in 13 counties across the state, said Dana Fulmer, who directs the fund. Another 244 homes will be repaired using funds from the second round of grants, Fulmer said.

Post and Courier: With Bush out of the race after weak S.C. primary finish, Rubio could win his supporters

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160221/PC1603/160229847>

Emma Dumain

On the debate stage, Jeb Bush received plenty of rhetorical punches from his rivals for the GOP presidential nomination. At their individual rallies the night of the South Carolina primary, those same opponents – even Donald Trump -- suddenly had very nice things to say about the former Florida governor.

Note: He finished in second place in South Carolina Saturday night, riding high on endorsements from Gov. Nikki Haley and two influential Republicans in the state's Congressional delegation, U.S. Sen. Tim Scott and U.S. Rep. Trey Gowdy.

The State: Rural areas showing increasing clout in SC GOP elections

<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/politics-columns-blogs/the-buzz/article61694302.html>

Andrew Shain

The areas of South Carolina influencing major statewide Republican elections are shifting. Clout is no longer just coming from major cities or specific regions of the state. Instead, new S.C. residents along the Grand Strand and angry GOP voters in rural counties are exerting increasing influence.

Note: In 2010, Nikki Haley, then a backbench state lawmaker running as a Tea Party candidate, won the Republican primary for governor over two establishment candidates — a state attorney general and congressman.

Note: In all three of the elections, GOP voters in 14 counties handed the non-establishment candidate — Haley, Gingrich or Trump -- big victories with results above their statewide tallies.

Note: U.S. Sen. Marco Rubio of Florida received endorsements from three top S.C. Republicans — Haley, U.S. Sen. Tim Scott and U.S. Rep. Trey Gowdy.

Post and Courier: Marco Rubio wins Joe Wilson's vote in GOP primary

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160220/PC1603/160229902>

Emma Dumain

Presidential hopeful Marco Rubio has picked up more support from inside the South Carolina Congressional delegation. U.S. Rep. Joe Wilson of Aiken told The Post and Courier Saturday afternoon he had cast a vote for the Florida Senator in the GOP primary.

Note: Wilson joins a handful of other prominent South Carolina elected officials to endorse Rubio -- fellow U.S. Rep. Trey Gowdy of Spartanburg, U.S. Sen. Tim Scott and Gov. Nikki Haley.

Note: But Wilson suggested he wasn't going to be a footsoldier for Rubio as Gowdy, Scott and Haley have been.

National Review: Cruz's Southern Firewall Cracks in S.C.

<http://www.nationalreview.com/article/431672/south-carolina-republican-primary-ted-cruz-southern-strategy-fails-test>

Alexis Levinson

"First Iowa, then New Hampshire, and now South Carolina. We don't know the exact results right now. Right now we are effectively tied for second place. But each time, defying expectations . . ." Ted Cruz told an adoring crowd here Saturday night, before thunderous applause cut him off.

Note: Everything seemed to be going Rubio's way: He had recovered his mojo after losing it in New Hampshire, he had Governor Nikki Haley's endorsement, and another rival, Jeb Bush, appeared unlikely to pose any serious threat. Cruz, meanwhile, faced a ceaseless barrage of attacks from every direction.

The Guardian: Fall of the house of Bush: how Jeb fell victim to hype, hysteria ... and himself

<http://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2016/feb/21/jeb-bush-marco-rubio-donald-trump>

Sabrina Siddiqui, Adam Gabbatt

The cracks in Jeb Bush's candidacy for president surfaced before he formally entered the race. It was meant to be like any other primetime appearance on Fox News: an opportunity for a son and brother of former presidents to tout his conservative credentials and record as a two-term governor of Florida.

Note: By midweek, South Carolina governor Nikki Haley delivered what one Bush aide described as "a gut punch". She had chosen to endorse Senator Marco Rubio, Bush's onetime ally turned rival, rewriting the narrative days before a primary critical to the direction of the two Floridian campaigns.

Note: Although the Bush campaign sought to downplay the impact of Haley's endorsement, Bush himself had referred to it only the day before as "the most powerful, meaningful one in the state."

Politico: Cruz: Rubio had all the advantages ... and still lost

<http://www.politico.com/story/2016/02/cruz-rubio-south-carolina-219590#ixzz40tZdZapt>

Eliza Collins

Rubio was "endorsed by a very popular governor of the state, very popular senator, very popular congressman, all the establishment circled their wagons around Marco and yet he still only came in second after his campaign promised everyone they were going to win the state," Cruz said on CBS' "Face the Nation" on Sunday.

Note: Cruz was referring to endorsements that Rubio received from Gov. Nikki Haley, Sen. Tim Scott and Rep. Trey Gowdy.

S.C. Political News:

The State: SC win would be redemption for Clinton after '08 loss

<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/politics-columns-blogs/the-buzz/article61658042.html>

Jamie Self

Hillary Clinton is poised for redemption. If polls hold true, the former secretary of state – making her second run for the White House – will win the S.C. Democratic primary Saturday, beating U.S. Sen. Bernie Sanders of Vermont thanks to overwhelming support from African-American voters.

Associated Press: Clinton heads South, aims for delegate edge over Sanders

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=3zvBvHAj

Ken Thomas, Julie Pace

The election calendar may have Democrats voting next in South Carolina, but Hillary Clinton and Bernie Sanders are eyeing bigger prizes in March, a month that will determine whether the Vermont senator can keep pace in the White House race. Clinton shook off some of the anxieties shadowing her campaign with a solid victory in Saturday's Nevada caucuses.

Post and Courier: Mothers back Clinton for stances on gun violence, police reform

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160221/PC1603/160229838>

Melissa Boughton

The most important thing Americans, and especially minorities, can do for their communities is vote, according to four African-American mothers who share the loss of children to gun violence and police incidents. The mothers of Sandra Bland, Eric Garner, Dontre Hamilton and Jordan Davis appeared at a Breaking Down Barriers forum Sunday at St. Peter's AME Church in North Charleston.

Greenville News: Sanders rallies 5,200 in Greenville, kicking off final SC push

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/politics/2016/02/21/sanders-rallies-5200-greenville-kicking-off-final-sc-push/80709188/>

Amanda Coyne

Sen. Bernie Sanders drew a loud crowd of more than 5,200 to the Bon Secours Wellness Arena on Sunday evening, fresh off a closer-than-expected loss to former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton in the Nevada Democratic caucus. Sanders lost by five percentage points, but reminded the crowd in Greenville how far the campaign had come.

Post and Courier: Sanders rallies his troops ahead of Saturday primary

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160221/PC1603/160229839>

Gavin Jackson

U.S. Vermont Sen. Bernie Sanders knows South Carolina is a Hillary Clinton stronghold but that didn't stop him from rallying thousands on Sunday just hours after a narrow loss in Nevada. "What the American people are demanding is a government which represents all of us, not just a handful of wealthy campaign contributors," Sanders said.

Note: Sanders' has steadily increased his South Carolina staff to 200 over 10 field offices along with several surrogates who spread his message of a \$15 minimum wage, tuition-free public college education, and expanding Medicaid — something Gov. Nikki Haley refused.

Spartanburg Herald Journal: At Greenville rally, Sanders says he has momentum

<http://www.goupstate.com/article/20160221/articles/160229954>

Chris Lavender

Vermont Sen. Bernie Sanders said he believes his presidential campaign has momentum heading into South Carolina's Democratic presidential primary on Saturday. Sanders held a campaign rally at Bon Secours Wellness Arena in Greenville on Sunday night.

The State: Jane Sanders on SC primary and Bernie's presidential campaign

<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/politics-columns-blogs/the-buzz/article61657832.html>

Jamie Self

Jane Sanders, wife of U.S. Sen. Bernie Sanders of Vermont, discusses her husband's presidential campaign, the septuagenarian's draw for voters, and challenges the campaign faces heading into Saturday's first-in-the-South Democratic presidential primary, where her husband trails frontrunner Hillary Clinton in the polls.

Post and Courier: Palmetto Sunrise: The week of the Democrats

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160222/PC1603/160229833>

Gavin Jackson

Democratic presidential candidates will frequent South Carolina this week in their final push to sway voters before the Saturday primary. South Carolinians will see and hear much less from the two Democratic candidates this week compared to the onslaught of mailings, calls and appearances by the six GOP candidates last week.

WCIV: Coalition leader Dixon to mount Senate campaign against Tim Scott

<http://abcnews4.com/news/local/coalition-leader-dixon-to-mount-senate-campaign-against-tim-scott>

Sam Tyson

Sen. Tim Scott will have at least one opponent in his next Senate race -- Pastor Thomas Dixon of The Coalition. Dixon announced Saturday he is throwing his hat into the ring. A formal candidacy event will be held Monday morning at the International Longshoreman's Hall in downtown Charleston.

Opinion / Editorial Roundup:

The State: SC makes candidates appeal to 'someone other than old white people'

<http://www.thestate.com/opinion/op-ed/article61651912.html>

Dick Harpootlian

In February 1992, several other South Carolinians and I flew to New Hampshire to campaign for Arkansas Gov. Bill Clinton in the presidential primary. It was a critical vote for the untested, virtually unknown Southern governor whom all of us had met through former S.C. Gov. Dick Riley.

Post and Courier: Mt. Pleasant growth choices

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160220/PC1002/160229875>

Editorial

Mount Pleasant is unquestionably having a growth spurt, but that's no good reason to jettison the town's long-term plan for revitalizing the city center. Unfortunately, a handful of Town Council members want to keep the town's historic center from growing up.

Post and Courier: China extends troubling reach

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160220/PC1002/160229876>

Editorial

Satellite photography appears to show the recent deployment of Chinese ground-to-air missiles on Woody Island, a land spit in the Paracel Islands occupied by China but claimed by Vietnam. This deployment, if verified, threatens international air space and is a further encroachment by China into international waters used by many nations

South Carolina News:

Post and Courier: Boeing South Carolina confident with rate increase, 787-10 on horizon

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160221/PC05/1602299244>

David Wren

Boeing South Carolina has been through this kind of thing before — the introduction of a new version of its popular 787 Dreamliner coupled with an increase in monthly production rates. Beverly Wyse, vice president and general manager, is confident the transition will be easier this time around.

Post and Courier: Budget alarm bells ringing for some at South Carolina's ports agency

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160221/PC05/160229925>

David Wren

Seven consecutive months of declining cargo volumes at the State Ports Authority have some members of that agency's board questioning whether it's time to take a magnifying glass to the budget. CEO Jim Newsome calls the decline a seasonal blip. Others say they'd rather be prepared if the declines continue.

Post and Courier: Charleston home rental rate spike 11th highest in U.S.

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160222/PC05/160229979>

Warren L. Wise

Rental rate increases for single-family homes in the Charleston-North Charleston area came in 11th highest in the U.S. for the fourth quarter of 2015 compared to the same period a year earlier. Those are the findings from RentRange, a rental market service that's part of Luxembourg-based Altisource.

Associated Press: South Carolina museums win state tourism awards

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160222/PC05/160229957>

The South Carolina State Museum in Columbia and the Colleton Museum and Farmer's Market in Walterboro are winners of South Carolina's tourism awards. The State Museum received the Governor's Cup, the state's highest tourism award, for its 2014 expansion that included a planetarium and observatory.

Local News:

Anderson Independent: Anderson School District 2 expansion paused until 2017-18 school year

<http://www.independentmail.com/news/-district-2-expansion-paused-until-2017-18-school-year-2bfd486f-57c5-3308-e053-0100007f3534-369597231.html>

Frances Parrish

After a recent vote to rezone elementary schools in Belton, Anderson School District 2 won't enact many more changes until enrollment numbers are in for the 2017-18 school year. The District 2 board of trustees approved the rezoning Feb. 8 to solve issues of overcrowding in the elementary schools.

National News:

Associated Press: Time is running out for Donald Trump's rivals to stop him

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

Steve Peoples, Stephen Ohlemacher

Donald Trump's rivals are running out of time to stop him after his dominant performance in South Carolina. A close look at the election calendar suggests that if the New York billionaire's rivals don't slow him by mid-March, their only chance to deny him the Republican presidential nomination may be a nasty and public fight at the party's convention this summer.

Associated Press: Rubio, Cruz jostle to claim 'alternative-to-Trump' vote

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=2T77g5Zo

Nancy Benac, Steve Peoples

Republicans Marco Rubio and Ted Cruz battled to emerge as the true anti-Trump on Sunday as the billionaire businessman took an ever-so-brief break from his trademark braggadocio to say his drive for the GOP nomination isn't unstoppable - yet.

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