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Subject: Morning Clips – Thursday, June 30, 2016

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Governor Nikki Haley News:

WFXG: Coastal Carolina sees social media activity skyrocket through College World Series
<http://www.wfxg.com/story/32339063/coastal-carolina-sees-social-media-activity-skyrocket-through-college-world-series>

Lisa Gresci

The Chanticleers' run through the College World Series has led to tremendous growth for Coastal Carolina University on social media. The man who oversees social media posts for all of CCU described the vibe on social media with one word - pride. "Besides being in Omaha, I think I have the best seat that anyone could possibly have," said Brent Reser, the university's social media and online marketing coordinator. Reser said he sees exactly what people all tweeting, posting and liking throughout CCU's run in the College World Series. He's keeping a close eye on all social media platforms, from Instagram and Facebook, to Twitter and Snap Chat.

NOTE: While the Chants continue to get shout-outs from the Carolina Panthers, ESPN, Gov. Nikki Haley and others across the nation, Reser can't help but notice a common theme. "Everybody loves the underdog and Coastal Carolina University has really embraced that role, and it's a great story," Reser said. It is a story told over and over through social media.

The State: SC leaders' education update short on solutions, lawyer for schools says
<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/politics-columns-blogs/the-buzz/article86716507.html>

Jamie Self

State lawmakers' efforts this year to improve public schools amounted to "tinkering around the edges without offering meaningful remedies," an attorney representing poor, rural school districts says. Carl Epps, a Nelson Mullins attorney representing school districts that sued the state in 1993 for more support, was critiquing an update state lawmakers filed Wednesday with the S.C. Supreme Court. The report, outlining the steps that lawmakers took this year to improve public schools, cited more than \$100 million in new state spending in the districts that sued the state. That spending, in the state budget that starts Friday, includes more money for teacher pay raises, technology and technical assistance, and teacher recruitment efforts for rural districts. State lawmakers agreed this year to spend more than \$300 million in added money on education for all school districts.

NOTE: Gov. Nikki Haley, who backed the initiatives in her executive budget, also submitted an update to the court, outlining her push for more state spending on students living in poverty, technology and reading coaches, among other initiatives.

NOTE: First pitched by Haley in January, the proposal called for spending \$200 million in state money to help districts pay to renovate and rebuild aging school facilities. The House passed the bill, but it died in the Senate as the clock ran out on the legislative session.

The State: No solutions yet on Confederate flag display
<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/politics-columns-blogs/the-buzz/article86614467>

[html](#)

The Confederate battle flag removed from S.C. State House grounds last July remains in limbo. Members of the S.C. Confederate Relic Room and Military Museum Commission on Wednesday acknowledged that lawmakers didn't move on a proposal to expand the museum and display the flag. And lawmakers this year sustained Gov. Nikki Haley's veto of a proposal to study moving the flag – and the museum – to Charleston from Columbia. For now, the \$52 nylon flag – one of many that flew over the State House grounds through the years – remains wrapped in acid-free tissue paper in a white, acid-free textile storage box. The box is stored on a stainless steel rack in a locked, alarmed, climate-controlled room in the back of the museum.

Post and Courier: S.C. Confederate Relic Room Commission to regroup on flag display

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160629/160629364/sc-confederate-relic-room-commission-to-regroup-on-flag-display>

Maya T. Prabhu

Almost a year after the Confederate battle flag was removed from public view at the Statehouse, there still is no clear plan for its display at the Confederate Relic Room and Military Museum. The Relic Room Commission received no feedback from the General Assembly on its \$3.6 million request for museum improvements, which included \$550,000 needed to display the flag. Museum staff said Wednesday they will look at other options. The Legislature received the proposal at the beginning of the year. "We plan to move on," museum director Allen Roberson said. "We will look at this in the future and see if there's alternative proposals that we can come up with." The commission was tasked last July with considering how to display the flag after lawmakers voted to move it from the Confederate soldier memorial on Statehouse grounds to the museum after the racially charged mass shooting at Charleston's Emanuel AME Church.

Washington Post: A split decision for Berniecrats, and four other lessons from June 28 primaries

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/post-politics/wp/2016/06/29/a-split-decision-for-berniecrats-and-three-other-lessons-from-june-28-primaries/>

David Weigel

Just three South Carolina state senators, all Republicans, voted against the legislation that removed the Confederate flag from the state capitol grounds. One of them, state Sen. Lee Bright, narrowly lost his runoff last night and won't return to Columbia. "Tomorrow is a new day," Bright said cheerfully last night, with no suggestion that he'd run again. That was a victory for Gov. Nikki Haley (R-S.C.), who'd endorsed his opponent, and the Conservation Voters of South Carolina, who saw Bright as vulnerable and poured in. And so, the state senator who called for "the church to rise up" after gay marriage was legalized was turfed.

Free Beacon: Haley-Endorsed Candidate Wins S.C. State Senate Primary

<http://freebeacon.com/politics/haley-endorsed-candidate-wins-s-c-state-senate-primary/>

Natalie Johnson

Controversial state Sen. Lee Bright was ousted during the South Carolina GOP run-off Tuesday by a local attorney who had the backing of Gov. Nikki Haley. The winner, Scott Talley, a former state representative, was also favored by the South Carolina Chamber of Commerce, GreenvilleOnline reported. Talley defeated Bright 52 percent to 48 percent. Bright's final term was mired in controversy after he proposed legislation mandating that transgender students use the bathroom that correspond to their biological sex. Haley and the chamber spoke out against Bright's bathroom bill, arguing it would damage the state's economy.

Easley Progress: Historic Bill Signing

<http://theeasleyprogress.com/news/5228/historic-bill-signing>

Kasie Strickland

The governor of South Carolina made history last week when she traveled to Easley to sign into law a bill leading to more transparency in state government and to give a nod to the local legislator who was instrumental in making it all happen. "The reason we are here, I have to say, is because of Sen. Larry Martin," Gov. Nikki Haley stated before putting her name to the new legislation. "It's the old guard versus the new guard and Larry Martin fought with the new guard to help bring ethics reform to the state. Imagine the work it took to get the legislation passed where legislators now have to show where their money comes from, and that is any elected official in South Carolina." Haley made the trip to Easley to sign into law two bills leading to independent investigations and private income disclosures for elected officials.

NOTE: According to Haley, Martin's work, along with others involved throughout the entire process, was leading South Carolina to more open government. "We are the 47th state to enact income disclosures for its public officials and this is going to help make our state more transparent," Haley said. "When you include the independent investigations portion of this, it sends a message to the old guard this is the new way of doing business in Columbia."

Post and Courier: Gov. Nikki Haley's legacy faces roadblocks after primary losses

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160629/160629347/gov-nikki-haleys-legacy-faces-roadblocks-after-primary-losses>

Gavin Jackson

Gov. Nikki Haley may have some work to do mending fences after she failed to slay most of the incumbents she targeted this election season. By most counts, Haley picked up three out of the eight Statehouse seats she and her closest allies targeted this season as she worked to get rival Republicans out of her way. College of Charleston political science professor Gibbs Knotts said that while Haley's record isn't a complete loss, it is something sitting lawmakers will remember. "It seems pretty unprecedented to go after people in her own party in a state so legislatively dominated," Knotts said. "It's going to be very difficult for her to get things done since she increased her number of enemies in the state Legislature." Tuesday rounded out Haley's last attempt to alter the Legislature — specifically by going after Republicans in the Senate, where a single member can hold up legislation that could hamper her legacy with just two years left to preserve it. Through her endorsement support and with money raised by her affiliated political advocacy group A Great Day SC, only two Senate candidates that Haley backed — Scott Talley and Wes Climer — claimed victory this season, knocking out targeted Upstate Republican Sens. Lee Bright and Wes Hayes.

Savannah River Site/MOX News:

Aiken Standard: MOX lawsuit culminates in Thursday hearing

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/article/20160629/AIK0101/160629430>

Thomas Gardiner

The struggle over the embattled Mixed Oxide Fuel Fabrication Facility, or MOX, culminates in a court hearing today after months of petitions and filings between the U.S. Department of Energy and the state of South Carolina. The state filed suit against the Energy Department after it failed to meet a series of deadlines. The latest deadline required the DOE to remove 1 metric ton of plutonium from South Carolina by Jan. 1, 2016, after failing to complete MOX construction on time. The Palmetto State is seeking to enforce penalties set forth in federal statutes that levy \$1 million fines against the Energy Department every day of the year until the \$100 million annual limit is met. This year's fines

reached their cap in April. Should the court find in favor of the state, the current law would allow South Carolina to restart the fine counter again on Jan. 1, 2017.

NOTE: The hearing has drawn attention from local nuclear activists and Savannah River Site watchdog group, SRS Watch. Before the hearing, there will be an organized group of citizens demonstrating in what they call support for Gov. Nikki Haley's efforts to hold DOE accountable for plutonium removal from the state. Haley has repeatedly voiced opposition to what she says has been DOE's lack of compliance and said she refuses to let the state become a "nuclear dumping ground."

Associated Press: SC, Dept. of Energy in court about nuclear fuel lawsuit

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=40LCTwql

Meg Kinnard

Attorneys for the federal government and the state of South Carolina are in court arguing about a lawsuit concerning an unfinished plant to turn old plutonium into commercial nuclear reactor fuel. A federal judge in Columbia is hearing arguments Thursday in South Carolina's lawsuit against the U.S. Department of Energy over the mixed oxide fuel project at the Savannah River Site near Aiken. South Carolina is suing the federal government because the project is well past its start date. The state is seeking daily fines of up to \$1 million, as well as the removal of plutonium from the state. The federal government is asking that the lawsuit be dismissed, saying that such issues are best handled in a different type of court.

Dylann Roof Case:

The State: Roof case: Meek moves for sentencing delay

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/crime/article86734507.html>

John Monk

A lawyer for Joseph "Joey" Meek, a friend of accused Charleston church killer Dylann Roof, has filed a motion in federal court asking a judge to delay Meek's sentencing hearing. The lawyer, Deborah Barbier of Columbia, also asked U.S. Judge Richard Gergel to keep under seal confidential records she also was filing, saying the records involve "sensitive medical and psychiatric information." Meek, 21, is charged with withholding information from authorities and lying to the FBI about his prior knowledge of Roof's plans to kill black people at a historic downtown Charleston church a year ago. Roof, 22, of Columbia, an avowed white supremacist, wanted to start a race war, according to a website linked to him. When Meek agreed to plead guilty during an April 29 hearing, he told Gergel that he was seeing a psychiatrist but did not say why.

LGBT News:

Associated Press: US officials: Military concerned about transgender timeline

<http://bigstory.ap.org/ab34aac18f6340d98ecba11a0a527796>

Lolita C. Baldor

The Pentagon is poised to announce new rules allowing transgender individuals to serve openly in the U.S. military, amid concerns from senior military leaders who believe the department is moving too fast and has yet to resolve many details, U.S. officials told The Associated Press. Defense Secretary Ash Carter is expected to announce the new policy this week, nearly a year after announcing his intention to make the change. The move would end one of the last bans on service in the military. Several senior U.S. officials, however, said that while the chiefs of the military services largely back the change, they sought more time to fully develop and implement the complex new rules. According to officials, the service chiefs asked Gen. Joseph Dunford, chairman of the Joint

Chiefs of Staff, to relay their concerns to Carter. A senior U.S. official told the AP that Carter met this week with his military leaders, heard their concerns, and has adjusted the timeline.

Charlotte Observer: Proposed changes in North Carolina's HB2 meet fierce criticism

<http://www.charlotteobserver.com/news/politics-government/article86419362.html>

Jim Morrill, Katherine Peralta, Rick Bonnell and Michael Gordon

In the face of a national firestorm, North Carolina lawmakers are considering revisions to House Bill 2, though critics blasted one proposal Tuesday as “just another slap in the face to all North Carolinians.” Gay rights advocates were reacting to a draft of a bill that would change HB2, the law that ignited a storm of criticism that resulted in lost investments, celebrity boycotts and the potential loss of national sporting events. The law nullified a Charlotte ordinance that would have extended nondiscrimination protection to LGBT residents and allowed transgender individuals to use the bathroom of their gender identity. It’s unclear where the draft originated, or how many other drafts exist. But some lawmakers acknowledged that changes to HB2 could be considered before the General Assembly adjourns this week or next. That’s why HB2 critics were taking no chances.

SC Political News:

Greenville News: Trey Gowdy skips political analysis of Benghazi

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/politics/2016/06/29/trey-gowdy-skips-political-analysis-benghazi/86523480/?from=global&sessionKey=&autologin=>

Mary Orndorff Troyan

Rep. Trey Gowdy warned long ago that his special committee’s investigation into the 2012 terrorist attack in Benghazi would be filled with facts, not conclusions. On Tuesday, he made good on that promise and dropped an 800-page report on the American people that explores a litany of poor decisions made before, during and after the attacks. But he repeatedly refused to place blame on any one person or declare that four Americans would still be alive if not for political chicanery. “My job is to report facts. That’s what I’ve done. You can draw whatever conclusions you want to draw,” Gowdy said Tuesday. Two of his Republican colleagues on the committee immediately announced their conclusion that Hillary Clinton’s leadership at the time as secretary of state was “morally reprehensible.” Gowdy, however, expressly declined to endorse their view.

McClatchy DC: Here’s a U.S. state that might benefit from Brexit: South Carolina

<http://www.mcclatchydc.com/news/nation-world/national/article86680052.html>

Vera Bergengruen

Even with the economic uncertainty following the United Kingdom’s decision in a referendum last Thursday to leave the European Union, Europe’s loss could be South Carolina’s gain in the long term. Although the U.K. is the state’s fifth-largest trading partner, with \$2.8 billion in goods exported there last year, according to the S.C. Commerce Department, the recent boom of foreign investment is likely to absorb any short-term economic shock. And as the U.K. extricates itself from the 27 remaining members of the EU, South Carolina is well-positioned to benefit later on, both from renegotiated trade deals and as a stable place to invest. “The thing about South Carolina is that there is a lot of momentum from significant investment, from foreign and domestic companies,” said David Cuda, the director of corporate solutions at the South Carolina office of global commercial real estate firm Colliers International. German automaker BMW announced a billion-dollar investment in its Upstate plant in March, and Volvo selected South Carolina for its first American factory last year, investing \$500 million in a facility in Berkeley County.

Aiken Standard: Solicitor Donnie Myers named in Harvard Law 'America's Deadliest Prosecutors' report

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/20160630/160639994/solicitor-donnie-myers-named-in-harvard-law-x2018americax2019s-deadliest-prosecutorsx2019-report>

Maayan Schechter

A new Harvard Law report has named Solicitor Donnie Myers as one of America's deadliest prosecutors. The Fair Punishment Project report, "America's top five deadliest prosecutors: How overzealous Personalities Drive the Death Penalty," analyzes the records of five prosecutors, including Myers, who personally obtained more than 35 death sentences, along with Joe Freeman Britt, of North Carolina, and Bob Macy, of Oklahoma. "These men shared an obsession with winning death sentences at almost any cost," the report states. The Fair Punishment Project uses legal research and educational initiatives to ensure that the "U.S. justice system is fair and accountable," the study states.

SC Elections:

WIS: New era to begin for SC Senate

<http://www.wistv.com/story/32340106/new-era-to-begin-for-sc-senate>

Jack Kuenzie

Tuesday night's results in runoff elections statewide made it clear that voters in the Upstate were not happy with their incumbents. Four incumbent senators will not be returning to the General Assembly, including 37 year legislative veteran and Senate Judiciary Committee Chairman Larry Martin of Pickens. Voters also kicked out Greenville's Mike Fair, Fairfield's Creighton Coleman and Spartanburg Senator Lee Bright - whose re-election effort drew opposition from Governor Haley and others. "We fought hard and quite frankly if you take the point on every mission, you're a target and they can get you. I didn't plan on doing this for a lifetime. But I do plan on making a difference and I'm not through doing that yet," expressed Senator Bright. The Senate will look even more different next year because three additional members chose not to seek re-election. A combination of Tuesday night's win by candidate Sandy Senn in District 41, and competition between two women for the District 22 seat this fall, means the once all-male chamber will have four female members when the new session starts.

Aiken Standard (Editorial): Dismal turnout turns to close District 81 race

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/20160630/160639998/editorial-dismal-turnout-turns-to-close-district-81-race>

If Bart Blackwell and KT Ruthven competed in a lip sync competition, complete with outfits, Aiken County residents would have likely made sure to block out an hour of their day to tune in. But given the privilege to vote for their next South Carolina House District 81 candidate, the roughly 28,000 residents inside District 81 instead stayed away from the polls. Around 7 percent of voters in District 81 participated in Tuesday's runoff. Of the 28,730 registered voters in District 81, only 2,035 of those voters cast a ballot in the runoff, according to the unofficial results. Compare that to the June 14 primary, where a total of 9,987 of 107,053 registered Aiken County voters headed to the polls, totaling a voter turnout of 9.33 percent. On Tuesday, Blackwell, a local businessman and member of the Greater Aiken Chamber of Commerce's Board of Directors, received 1,038 votes, or 51.08 percent, and Ruthven, a local Realtor and former Aiken GOP chairman, received 994 votes, or 48.92 percent, unofficial votes show.

Opinion/Editorial:

Post and Courier: Republicans blew it on Benghazi

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160630/160639987/republicans-blew-it-on-benghazi>

Editorial: Jennifer Rubin

There is plenty of evidence that the Obama administration less than two months before the November 2012 election tried to come up with a less damning explanation for the attack in Benghazi, Libya, that killed four Americans. Ben Rhodes was the author of a memo that sought immediately to elevate the anti-Muslim video as the official narrative. The president stuck to that cover story up through his Sept. 25 speech at the United Nations, long after we understood this was a planned attack, the outgrowth of the chaos festering in the wake of the overthrow of Moammar Gadhafi. Republicans investigating the Benghazi attack soon got lost in the weeds of the debacle, although their basic understanding was correct. Perhaps this was all too complicated for Republicans to explain. All of this doesn't fit nicely the requirements of a made-for-talk-radio scandal. It does not put Clinton in the role of deliberately denying support for her personnel. But it is the truth, and Republicans should have stuck closer to it, making the big-picture case about the failure of the Obama administration to deal with a growing Islamic threat that manifested itself at a politically inconvenient time. Jennifer Rubin is a columnist for The Washington Post.

South Carolina News:

Associated Press: AAA Carolinas launching campaign against distracted driving

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=EakWb9ca

SC State Wire

With the summer driving season here and the Fourth of July weekend approaching, AAA Carolinas is urging motorists to avoid distracted driving. The motor club based in Charlotte, North Carolina, is launching a new safety campaign even as new research finds that distracted driving, especially using cellphones, can be just as dangerous as drunk driving. The AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety finds that nearly 60 percent of crashes involving teenagers involve distractions while texting and using social media on phones while driving is on the rise among teen drivers. The campaign includes putting messages urging people to disconnect and drive on gas pumps and ice chests in coastal towns in both Carolinas.

Local News:

The State: Sheriff: Runaways held at motel were trafficked

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/crime/article86675347.html>

Glen Luke Flanagan

Richland deputies located three runaway girls at a motel off Broad River Road on Tuesday night and charged three suspects with human trafficking. Richland County Sheriff Leon Lott, meanwhile, had a message for men who buy sex from young women held against their will: "Just stop it. We're going to go after you, too." Lott said at a news conference Wednesday that the three victims were runaways aged 15 and 16 from three S.C. counties who were taken in by the men, held captive and offered for sex on backpage.com. Lott said the men used drugs "as one of the means to get control over these girls." "Fortunately for us, we had a mother of one of these runaways who was very persistent," Lott said. "She was going to find her daughter, and she did a lot of things to find her daughter."

Sun News: New Myrtle Beach police technology lets drivers 'feel' sirens

<http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/news/local/article86726752.html>

Chloe Johnson

The Myrtle Beach Police department will soon have two new high-tech tools: sonar and low-frequency siren emitters. Local police will begin using a low-frequency siren called a "howler." Police Chief Warren Gall said that the howler, which will emit siren sounds at a lower register in tandem with a normal siren, will help keep drivers safe when emergency vehicles go out on a call. "This sends out a, for a lack of a better term, a vibration. It's a low-end noise that comes in accompanied with the siren, and it literally -- you feel it," Gall said at City Council's Tuesday morning workshop. "So you'll feel it coming, and it makes you more aware to turn your attention to what's going on around you."

Herald-Journal: GSP reports no increased security in wake of Turkey airport attack

<http://www.goupstate.com/article/20160629/articles/160629646>

Bob Montgomery

Security at Greenville-Spartanburg International Airport has not been stepped up in the wake of Tuesday's suicide attack in Turkey at Istanbul's busy airport, a GSP spokeswoman said. "We have not been notified about a change in the threat level for GSP," said spokeswoman Rosylin Weston. "This change would be facilitated by TSA (U.S. Transportation Security Administration)." Turkish authorities said 41 people died and 270 were wounded in the triple suicide attack, excluding the attackers, who blew themselves up after coming under fire, the Associated Press reported. Islamic State extremists are believed to be responsible. NBC News reported Wednesday the TSA stepped up security at major U.S. airports for the July Fourth holiday, including JFK and LaGuardia in New York and Atlanta's Hartsfield-Jackson. At GSP, security officials and GSP airport police are prepared to respond immediately if the threat level changes, Weston said. "GSP airport police are always vigilant in their efforts to patrol and protect passengers, visitors and those who work at GSP," Weston said.

Post and Courier: In wake of tax hike, Berkeley bills to include some school officials' contact info

<http://www.postandcourier.com/20160629/160629349/in-wake-of-tax-hike-berkeley-bills-to-include-some-school-officials-contact-info>

Brenda Rindge

Berkeley County's property tax bills this fall will include the names and phone numbers of school district leaders who voted Tuesday to raise taxes. The bills will not include the names of Berkeley County Council members, who approved their \$72.4 million operating budget without a tax increase. County Council's budget was passed Monday after 29 separate last-minute amendments, including one that requires information be given to taxpayers for "fiscal responsibility and transparency purposes." The school district's \$258.8 million general fund budget, approved by a vote of 6-3 Tuesday, included a \$50 tax increase on a \$200,000 non-owner occupied home. The county staff estimated it would cost as much as \$5,100 more to revise the bills to include contact information for Superintendent Brenda Blackburn, Chief Financial Officer Brantley Thomas and the six board members who voted for the increase — Chairman Jim Hayes and Shannon Lee, Kathy Schwalbe, Kent Murray, Frank Wright and Julius Barnes.

The State: High bacteria levels discovered in Saluda near Riverbanks Zoo

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/article86802597.html>

Sammy Fretwell

Bacteria levels high enough to make people sick were found in the lower Saluda River near Riverbanks Zoo at about the same time state regulators were conducting an investigation this month of water quality problems several miles upstream. Testing authorized by the zoo showed elevated levels of E-coli bacteria in the Saluda on five different occasions from June 7 to June 16, according to results released Wednesday by Riverbanks. The zoo discovered the bacteria after hearing that a

sewage leak had occurred upstream, Riverbanks chief executive Satch Krantz said. As a precaution, Riverbanks launched its first-ever water quality tests in the Saluda near a bridge connecting the zoo area to the attraction's botanical gardens, Krantz said.

Charlotte Observer: N.C. House tentatively votes to regulate Whitewater Center after death

<http://www.charlotteobserver.com/news/local/article86499392.html>

Fred Clasen-Kelly and Jim Morrill

The N.C. House voted Tuesday to include facilities such as the U.S. National Whitewater Center under regulations for public swimming pools, including water quality and testing. The legislation follows the June 19 death of an Ohio teenager who contracted a rare brain infection after visiting the center. Park officials suspended its whitewater activities indefinitely Friday, saying water tests detected the amoeba that caused her infection. Lawmakers' swift action also comes after an Observer report Sunday that revealed the Whitewater Center is one of only three similar parks nationwide that is not regulated to help prevent waterborne illnesses. Mecklenburg County tests the water in public pools, including parks and apartment complexes, once a year for pH and disinfectant levels. State regulations require public pool owners to test pH and chlorine levels daily.

Associated Press: Bad weather forces CWS final to be postponed until Thursday

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=7RUx8HH0

Eric Olson

The College World Series championship game between Coastal Carolina and Arizona was postponed until Thursday because of inclement weather in the Omaha area on Wednesday night. NCAA officials waited 2 hours, 23 minutes after the scheduled start time to postpone the game. More rain and lightning were forecast for the area in the early morning hours, meaning a delay would have been likely. The best-of-three series is tied at a game apiece. "I think it was a great decision after the amount of delay we had and the length of time it would take to get the teams ready to go," Coastal Carolina coach Gary Gilmore said. "You don't want to play a national championship game and finish at 3 o'clock in the morning." Coastal Carolina (54-18) will be playing for its first national title in any team sport. Arizona (49-23) is going for its fifth championship, and first since 2012. First pitch is set for 1:08 p.m. EDT.

Sun News: College World Series finale postponed to Thursday afternoon

<http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/sports/college/big-south/coastal-carolina-university/article86792357.html>

Ryan Young

After waiting through about two and half hours of weather delays Wednesday night, Coastal Carolina baseball coach Gary Gilmore and Arizona coach Jay Johnson both agreed with the decision to postpone their College World Series championship finale until Thursday afternoon. The Chanticleers and Wildcats are now scheduled to play the decisive game of their best-of-three series at 1:08 ET at TD Ameritrade Park with the national championship at stake. The game will be televised on ESPNEWS, rather than ESPN.

National News:

Associated Press: Ku Klux Klan dreams of rising again 150 years after founding

<http://bigstory.ap.org/a8ed212468c741eb993609cd480efe21>

Jay Reeves

Born in the ashes of the smoldering South after the Civil War, the Ku Klux Klan died and was reborn

before losing the fight against civil rights in the 1960s. Membership dwindled, a unified group fractured, and one-time members went to prison for a string of murderous attacks against blacks. Many assumed the group was dead, a white-robed ghost of hate and violence. Yet today, the KKK is still alive and dreams of restoring itself to what it once was: an invisible empire spreading its tentacles throughout society. As it marks 150 years of existence, the Klan is trying to reshape itself for a new era. Klan members still gather by the dozens under starry Southern skies to set fire to crosses in the dead of night, and KKK leaflets have shown up in suburban neighborhoods from the Deep South to the Northeast in recent months. Perhaps most unwelcome to opponents, some independent Klan organizations say they are merging with larger groups to build strength. "We will work on a unified Klan and/or alliance this summer," said Brent Waller, imperial wizard of the United Dixie White Knights in Mississippi.

Associated Press : Century-old rule book describes KKK beliefs, practices

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

SC State Wire

For all the hatred, terror and mayhem blamed on the Ku Klux Klan through 150 years, the group actually has a rule book. First published in 1916, the Kloran lays out a series of beliefs, titles and rituals that formed the core of Klan practices, sometimes dubbed "KlanKraft," during much of the last century. The Kloran was supposedly secret for generations, but today copies are posted on the internet. Some groups within the modern, splintered Klan say they don't follow the Kloran, while others do. Regardless, an online version of the Kloran published by the University of Wisconsin library offers a glimpse into the world of the nation's most notorious organizations.

NOTE: KKK groups exist from coast to coast in the U.S. and in a handful of other countries. But the organization is rooted in the perceived atrocities committed upon white Southerners by the federal government during Reconstruction, the period after the Civil War. A lecture published in the Kloran describes the Klan as the protector of whites who "stood aghast and pale, wondering at the meaning and purpose of the gathering gloom" after the South's defeat by the Union in 1865.

World News:

Associated Press: Report: Turkish raids target Islamic State group, 13 held

<http://bigstory.ap.org/5228732503834ffa908de8092a12d31a>

Dominique Soguel and Suzan Fraser

Police on Thursday conducted simultaneous raids on 16 locations in Istanbul, rounding up 13 people suspected of involvement in a devastating attack at Istanbul's Ataturk Airport in which the Islamic State group is the prime suspect. A senior official said three foreigners were among the suspects detained, but did not provide any information on their nationalities. The official spoke on condition of anonymity in line with government regulations. Earlier, the state-run Anadolu Agency said the raids were carried out in Istanbul's Pendik, Basaksehir and Sultanbeyli neighborhoods, which span the city's Asian and European sides. Authorities say all information suggests the shooting and suicide bombing attack by three assailants late Tuesday on one of the world's busiest airports was the work of the IS group.

Associated Press : Turkish official says Istanbul airport suicide attackers were from Russia, Uzbekistan and Kyrgyzstan

<http://bigstory.ap.org/80c1f65f93c74253a20dd0e1a973a234>

Associated Press: Other Europeans unhappy with EU could seek to follow UK out

<http://bigstory.ap.org/b2b9962e85f4475a8c0f79a8125d21ce>

Barry Hatton

Disenchantment with the European Union is not limited to British voters who opted to leave the bloc. Across the continent, anti-EU sentiment is bubbling up, fueled by far-right movements and others unhappy about government spending cuts, the influx of migrants and other policies overseen from the 28-nation bloc's headquarters in Brussels. Some political parties are offering to fight the cause of those disgruntled voters in upcoming national elections — while a few far-right groups are demanding a ballot in their own countries on whether to follow the United Kingdom out of the EU door. That prospect is sending a shudder through top EU officials because it could propel a process where the bloc breaks up or collapses as fast as an Arctic ice sheet, wrecking Europe's delicate postwar balance. "Will Britain's shock vote to leave the (EU) embolden populists elsewhere in Europe? That has become the key question for Europe," Holger Schmieding, the chief economist at German bank Berenberg, wrote in an analysis.

Associated Press: Brexit campaigner Boris Johnson says he will not run for party leadership of Conservative Party

<http://bigstory.ap.org/8a6bde265259497b98259c42ab4a30ef>

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