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Subject: Morning Clips – Tuesday, February 16, 2016

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Governor Nikki Haley News:

Florence Morning News: In Florence, Rubio uplifts Gov. Haley, aims to prove his experience
http://www.scnw.com/news/article_f9881a70-d41e-11e5-ae3-935ad699b5c4.html?_dc=636918535688.892

Joshua Lloyd

At a presidential primary campaign rally in Florence, U.S. Sen. Marco Rubio, R-Florida, said South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley – widely considered a rising star in the GOP – is more than qualified for a spot as his potential running mate. Rubio said he met Haley as she was making her first bid for governor and he was making his first run at a U.S. senator's seat.

WCSC: Rubio makes final push in Florence

<http://www.live5news.com/story/31227176/rubio-makes-final-push-in-florence>

Ken Baker

Candidates and voter Registration offices across the state are busy this week as the primaries get closer. On Tuesday, Senator Marco Rubio made a stop at the Francis Marion University Performing Arts Center. Before he spoke to an estimated crowd of 600 he spoke to the media. One thing he discussed is Governor Nikki Haley's place in this year's presidential election.

Note: "I've always been a huge fan of her career trajectory. I think last year, after the shooting at Mother Emanuel, she showed tremendous leadership," Rubio said. "If she wants to continue in public service there is now doubt that no matter who our nominee is she will be at the top of the list for various things vice president or the cabinet. I think she is someone who could run as president one day herself," Rubio said.

Associated Press: George W. Bush offers tough takedown, never mentions Trump

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=88FKMwIV

Julie Pace

George W. Bush never mentioned Donald Trump. But with his folksy touch, the former president unleashed a tough takedown of the billionaire businessman who has upended a Republican Party his family has long led. "I understand Americans are angry and frustrated," Bush said Monday during his first campaign rally for his brother, Jeb Bush.

Note: As he praised South Carolina's Republican Gov. Nikki Haley, the daughter of Indian-born parents, Bush pointedly said: "Thank goodness our country welcomed her parents when they immigrated here in 1969."

Washington Post: George W. Bush returns to campaign trail for brother

https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/george-w-bush-returns-to-campaign-trail-for-brother/2016/02/15/9ea2e3ba-d42d-11e5-b195-2e29a4e13425_story.html

Ed O'Keefe, Philip Rucker

Former president George W. Bush made a folksy and resolute return to the political arena here Monday night after a seven-year hibernation, trying to enliven his brother's flagging campaign and stop Republicans from coalescing around front-runner Donald Trump.

Note: Bush earlier Monday met privately in Columbia with Gov. Nikki Haley (R) and her family, and he heaped praise on her in his remarks here. "Thank goodness our country welcomed her parents from India when they immigrated here in 1969," said Bush, in an allusion to the anti-immigrant talk that has come from Trump and others.

McClatchy DC: Can South Carolina do it one more time for the Bushes?

<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/politics-columns-blogs/the-buzz/article60555101.html>

William Douglas, Lesley Clark

David Owens proudly voted for both George H.W. Bush and George W. Bush for president. When they spoke politically, it was like listening to old family friends. But Owens walked out a rally at Easley High School on Sunday thinking his Bush-voting streak might end Saturday in the nation's first-in-the-South primary.

Note: There's a new generation of influential elected officials, exemplified by Republican Gov. Nikki Haley, U.S. Sen. Tim Scott and U.S. Rep. Trey Gowdy. Scott and Gowdy have tossed their support to Rubio. Haley hasn't endorsed a candidate yet.

Post and Courier: George W. Bush comes in for Jeb: Pick character over rhetoric

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160215/PC1603/160219523>

Schuyler Kropf

Former President George W. Bush came in to right the ship for his brother Jeb's trailing campaign in South Carolina just as front-runner Donald Trump is threatening to run away with Saturday's Republican primary. Speaking to a crowd of more than 3,000 people at the North Charleston Convention Center, George Bush made the first presidential stump appearance of his post-White House life.

Note: Another, more veiled reference of Trump came when George W. Bush thanked the state of U.S. immigration laws in 1969 that allowed the family of future Gov. Nikki Haley to immigrate to South Carolina.

Note: Earlier in the day, the former president met privately with Haley and her family before he spoke at a little-publicized trip to an American Legion Post in Columbia. The content of their discussion was not disclosed.

The State: Trump threatens third-party run, bashes Haley

<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/politics-columns-blogs/the-buzz/article60464171.html>

Andrew Shain

Republican presidential front-runner Donald Trump did not close the door Monday on a possible third-party run, accusing the Republican National Committee of breaking its pledge to stay neutral in the race. "The RNC is in default," Trump said during a news conference here. "When somebody is in default, that means the other side can do what they have to do."

Note: "Donald Trump would be wise to know the facts before he discusses serious issues affecting South Carolinians — on both topics, the governor has taken on President Obama directly," Haley deputy chief of staff Rob Godfrey said.

Note: Haley, one of the state's most popular Republicans, has criticized Trump on several occasions for his combative campaign tactics, including in her State of the Union response last month, when she asked voters to avoid the "angriest voices."

Post and Courier: Donald Trump vows to keep Gitmo open while in Hanahan

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160215/PC1603/160219581>

Robert Behre

Republican front-runner Donald Trump on Monday underscored his opposition to shipping enemy combatants from Guantanamo Bay to the nearby Navy brig. Trump, who talked about the issue during a campaign stop at Hanahan City Hall, made the point earlier while answering a student's question at an East Cooper Republican Club luncheon.

Note: Trump also criticized Gov. Nikki Haley for not doing more to block the settlement of Syrian refugees in her state and for not taking a stronger stand against moving combatants here.

Note: Rob Godfrey, Haley's deputy chief of staff, said Trump would be wise to know the facts before he discusses serious issues affecting South Carolinians. "On both topics, the governor has taken on President Obama directly," Godfrey said. "It's a real shame — Republican governors are looking for a president who will support them, not continue to make their jobs harder with senseless and uneducated attacks."

NBC News: George W. Bush Explains 'What It Takes' to Be President While Stumping for Jeb

<http://www.nbcnews.com/politics/2016-election/george-w-bush-explains-what-it-takes-be-president-while-n519131>

Jordan Frasier

Former President George W. Bush on Monday night explained "what it takes to be president" while vouching for his brother's bona fides during his first public campaign appearance for Jeb Bush's White House bid. "Our allies will know that when President Jeb Bush speaks he will follow through on his words," the former president said.

Note: The former president also met privately this morning with South Carolina's Republican governor Nikki Haley who has yet to endorse a presidential candidate in 2016 and who's name frequently appears on the

short-list for any eventual nominee's options for vice president.

Anderson Independent: Trump stops short of predicting victory in S.C. primary

<http://www.independentmail.com/news/trump-stops-short-of-predicting-victory-in-sc-primary-2bd9c57f-ac91-329e-e053-0100007fa2a7-368903751.html>

Kirk Brown

Despite polls showing that he has a comfortable lead, Donald Trump stopped short Monday of predicting victory in this week's South Carolina Republican presidential primary. "I don't like to predict anything," Trump said during an exclusive interview with the Independent Mail.

Note: Trump also discussed South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley's response to President Barack Obama's State of the Union address last month. In her speech, Haley urged voters to resist the temptation "to follow the siren call of the angriest voices," which Trump and others interpreted as criticism of his campaign.

Note: Trump said Haley faced "a very strong onslaught" for her remarks. He noted that she referred to him as one of her "friends" on the morning after her speech.

Associated Press: Senate to debate more money for South Carolina highways

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=4DIY7Gk0

South Carolina senators plan to spend this week debating how to get more money for the state's roads. The Senate has spent most of its first five weeks in session discussing roads. But the debate will be on the floor Tuesday.

Note: But the proposal only cuts income and other taxes by \$400 million over that period, and Gov. Nikki Haley and other conservative lawmakers want an even swap.

S.C. Presidential Primary News:

The State: After debate, Trump still tops SC GOP presidential race

<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/politics-columns-blogs/the-buzz/article60547281.html>

Jamie Self

But the race for second place in Saturday's primary appears to be narrowing. Behind Trump, who has 35 percent support in a new poll, U.S. Sens. Marco Rubio of Florida and Ted Cruz of Texas are tied for second place — at 18 percent each, according to a Public Policy Polling survey released exclusively Monday to The State.

TIME: How Bush Hopes His Brother Will Help Him Win South Carolina

<http://time.com/4224735/jeb-bush-south-carolina-george-w-bush/>

Zeke Miller

In Bush family lore, it was always Jeb, not George W., who was destined to follow in their father's footsteps to the White House. Fate intervened to propel the charismatic older brother over the more sober and wonkish heir. But 22 years later, the usurper may become the savior.

Post and Courier: Sen. Marco Rubio makes appeal to cross-section of South Carolina voters

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160215/PC1603/160219538>

Gavin Jackson

U.S. Florida Sen. Marco Rubio traversed three geographic and conservative ideological regions Monday to rally support for his message of unity amid the divisive GOP presidential field. Rubio continues to tell hundreds that unity is required not just to attract new, diverse voters to the party but to defeat Democrats in November.

The State: Marco Rubio hoping for breakout performance in SC primary

<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/politics-columns-blogs/the-buzz/article60567561.html>

Jamie Self

Marco Rubio wants to win Saturday's S.C. GOP primary but could count a third-place finish as a success, political allies say. After a disappointing New Hampshire primary performance, the Florida U.S. senator is looking for a strong finish in the state's Republican presidential primary.

Post and Courier: Ted Cruz says his truthful assertions on Donald Trump's record have 'rattled' the businessman

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160215/PC1603/160219540>

Maya T. Prabhu

Republican presidential candidate Texas Sen. Ted Cruz said opponent Donald Trump must be worried that his poll numbers are dropping based on comments made earlier Monday saying he would sue Cruz if he did not pull "false" television ads. "Today Donald Trump held a press conference where he apparently lost it," Cruz said during a campaign stop in Camden.

WIS: Bushes keep it in the family as former president joins brother on campaign trail

<http://www.wistv.com/story/31227004/bushes-keep-it-in-the-family-as-former-president-joins-brother-on-campaign-trail>

Will Whitson

With the clock ticking to the First in the South Primary, Jeb Bush is campaigning hard to move out of fifth place. To do that, he's bringing in the other Bush to campaign for him. His brother and former President George W. Bush. Former President George W. Bush joined him Monday on the campaign trail at a rally at the North Charleston Convention Center.

Associated Press: Trump threatens to sue Cruz unless his GOP rival apologizes

https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/trump-rips-cruz-as-nuts-says-rnc-isnt-honoring-pledge/2016/02/15/59c4544e-d410-11e5-a65b-587e721fb231_story.html

Jill Colvin

Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump on Monday threatened to sue rival Ted Cruz, challenging his eligibility to serve in the White House unless the Texas senator stops airing what Trump calls "false ads" and retracts what the billionaire real estate mogul called a series of lies.

Associated Press: Cruz not standing for Rubio, Trump calling him a liar

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=1VmGMMgc

Scott Bauer

Donald Trump and Texas Sen. Ted Cruz continued to joust for primacy heading into the South Carolina primary next weekend, foregoing policy differences for name-calling and insults. Trump called Cruz "nuts," "dishonest" and "an unstable person," while Cruz questioned both Trump's conservative credentials and whether he had the temperament to be president.

Associated Press: Cruz makes his Supreme Court knowledge new focal point

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=4zixGiqH

Will Weissert

Ted Cruz has always talked about the Supreme Court as a candidate for president, but it's become the new focal point of his White House bid following the weekend death of Justice Antonin Scalia. The Texas senator on Monday recast the stump speech he's offered voters for the past several weeks to highlight the importance of electing a conservative who will appoint what he called the right kind of justices to the Supreme Court, which he described as currently being "activist" and "out of control."

Aiken Standard: Cruz talks Supreme Court Justice replacement, conservative values in Aiken stop

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/article/20160215/AIK0101/160219671>

Derrek Asberry

Conservatives in the Aiken area said Monday they support Texas Sen. Ted Cruz's call to repeal the healthcare law and protect the Constitution during the GOP presidential candidate's campaign stop at the USC Aiken Convocation Center. But Cruz will need much more help to win the nomination based on Sunday polling data.

Associated Press: Trump threatens to sue Cruz unless his GOP rival apologizes

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

Jill Colvin

Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump on Monday offered rival Ted Cruz an ultimatum, threatening to sue Cruz over his eligibility to serve in the White House unless the Texas senator stops airing what Trump calls "false ads" and apologizes for what the billionaire real estate mogul called a series of lies about his positions.

Spartanburg Herald Journal: Ben Carson makes campaign stop in Spartanburg at Christian event

<http://www.goupstate.com/article/20160215/articles/160219719>

Zach Fox

During a stop in Spartanburg Monday night, Dr. Ben Carson hoped to gain the support of some Upstate

evangelical voters ahead of Saturday's Republican presidential primary. Carson was the featured guest at Revive 714 at the Spartanburg Marriott.

Post and Courier: Presidential race: It's never been this personal
<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160215/PC1603/160219515>

Robert Behre, Schuyler Kropf

Disgusting Liar! Unhinged! Weakling! With just days until Saturday's vote, a new gold standard for angry candidate venom is being set in this year's South Carolina Republican primary. Rather than being a race about policy and a vision for the nation's future, this normally well-mannered Southern state — which has a history of sinking into ugly politics — is seeing a performance from the rudest of house guests.

The State: GOP race stirs uneasiness among many SC immigrants
<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/politics-columns-blogs/the-buzz/article60536861.html>

Avery G. Wilks

That concern is widespread among younger Hispanics, who were born in America, but worried they could be deported to a country they have never known, said Gomez, 37, who moved to the United States from Mexico 19 years ago.

Greenville News: Debate's boos, cheers reflect SC's political heritage
<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/politics/elections/2016/02/15/debates-boos-cheers-reflect-scs-political-heritage/80403324/>

Amanda Coyne

Before Saturday night's Republican presidential debate at the Peace Center, Rep. Mark Sanford predicted there would be "some sharp elbows." What he and others probably didn't count on is some of those sharp elbows coming from the audience.

Greenville News: Trump: Debate audience stacked; RNC denies charge
<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/politics/2016/02/15/trump-debate-audience-stacked-rnc-denies-charge/80388948/>

Rudolph Bell

Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump said in Greenville Monday that the Republican National Committee stacked the audience at Saturday night's presidential debate at the Peace Center with supporters of Jeb Bush and Marco Rubio, two of his rivals for the GOP nomination.

S.C. General Assembly News:

Post and Courier: Palmetto Sunrise: Roads talk in the Senate, Candidates on the trail
<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160216/PC1603/160219514>

Cynthia Roldan

When South Carolina's Senators return to Columbia today, they are expected to resume work on a roads bill. The issue, which has sputtered since the beginning of the 2016 Legislative session, is expected regain traction in part because of a spiel by Senate Majority Leader Harvey Peeler, R-Gaffney.

Spartanburg Herald Journal: Inman mayor to run for state Senate seat
<http://www.goupstate.com/article/20160215/articles/160219722>

Chris Lavender

Inman Mayor Cornelius Huff said Monday he will run against Democratic state Sen. Glenn Reese for the S. C. Senate District 11 seat. Huff, 46, who is running as a Republican candidate for the seat, will formally announce his candidacy at 6 p.m. Tuesday at The Bishop's Barn at 1850 Bishop Road, Inman.

Opinion / Editorial Roundup:

The State: A key ingredient is missing from SC Senate's DOT reform plan
<http://www.thestate.com/opinion/opn-columns-blogs/cindi-ross-scope/article60474891.html#storylink=cpy>

Cindi Ross Scoppe

IF YOUR BOSS boss can't fire you, she's not your boss. If no one can fire you — or even cut your pay or reduce or increase your responsibilities or in any other way influence your work conditions — then you really don't have a boss.

Note: Gov. Nikki Haley has been quite successful at getting the DHEC board to do her bidding, even though

her appointees to that board have this same protected status as transportation commissioners. But the issues before the DHEC board have a lot to do with political philosophy, and governors can always find people who agree with their political philosophy.

Post and Courier: Stop lowering tone of debate

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160216/PC1002/160219536>

Editorial

Saturday night's Republican presidential debate in Greenville had its moments of substance, particularly on the immigration issue. But it was again marred by the distractions of personal invective, mostly by front-runner Donald Trump. The real estate magnate and reality television star further demonstrated his lack of civility in a series of loud, boorish interruptions and personal insults.

Post and Courier: Scalia's extraordinary legacy

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160216/PC1002/160219535>

Editorial

The death of Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia has set off a fevered debate about the politics of his replacement. But however the issue is resolved — and it could become a unifying rather than a divisive decision — there is a very real sense in which Justice Scalia can never be replaced.

South Carolina News:

Post and Courier: Boeing gift in memory of Clementa Pinckney to help restore historic building

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160215/PC05/160219554>

David Wren

Boeing Co. has given an additional \$100,000 to Allen University in Columbia to help pay for restoration of Chappelle Auditorium, the site of historic speeches by African-American leaders such as Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and Muhammad Ali.

Post and Courier: Defense contractor to shed 180 jobs in Charleston region

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160215/PC05/160219573>

John McDermott

A large private-sector employer at the Naval Weapons Station is shedding 180 local jobs because it will not need as many workers under a new defense contract. A division of Morris Plains, N.J.-based Honeywell filed a layoff notification with the state Department of Employment and Workforce this month to comply with federal labor law requirements.

The State: Clemson is best college football city in country, study finds

<http://www.thestate.com/sports/college/article60466481.html>

Clemson, S.C., home of the national runnerup Clemson Tigers, is the highest-ranked college football town in the country, according to an annual study conducted by WalletHub.com. Clemson finished No. 2 overall behind Green Bay, Wis., home of the NFL Packers.

Local News:

Post and Courier: New Roper St. Francis Berkeley hospital expected to cost \$113 million

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160215/PC16/160219575>

Lauren Sausser

The new Roper St. Francis hospital in Berkeley County is starting to take shape. The project is expected to cost \$113 million and will open in 2019 — the same year that the Medical University of South Carolina plans to open the new \$385 million MUSC Shawn Jenkins Children's Hospital on the peninsula.

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