

From: Symmes, Brian <BrianSymmes@gov.sc.gov>
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Subject: Clips – Sunday, February 14, 2015

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Governor Nikki Haley News:

Charlotte Observer: SC Gov. Nikki Haley's year under the hot lights

<http://www.charlotteobserver.com/news/politics-government/article60145471.html>

Jim Morrill

When the national spotlight fell on South Carolina last year, it focused on a string of deadly tragedies. A police officer charged in a fatal shooting. A church massacre. A killer flood of biblical proportions. Republican Gov. Nikki Haley found herself in an unwelcome glare.

Note: "Last year did a number on me, it really did," she said. "Those are things that I hope we never have to experience again."

'A different South Carolina' Last summer Haley attended funerals for each of the nine Charleston victims and, according to Graham, showed the families "great compassion." She calls the experience life-changing.

Note: "The heart and soul of South Carolina was broken in a way that I never could comprehend," she said. "But we were going to get through it."

'Enough blame to go around' Ahead of Saturday's primary, Republican candidates are swarming the state.

Note: "I don't just want somebody to go to the White House and beat up on the Democrats," she said. "I want somebody to remind Republicans who they were in the first place. That we don't spend ridiculous amounts of money. ... We were told that if we got a Republican House and a Republican Senate that life would change. And we haven't seen that."

Press Trust of India: Haley will do better than Obama in curing poverty: Rubio

http://www.business-standard.com/article/pti-stories/haley-will-do-better-than-obama-in-curing-poverty-rubio-116021400131_1.html

Nikki Haley, the Indian-American Governor of South Carolina, would do a better job in reducing poverty than US President Barack Obama, a top Republican presidential candidate has said. "I think Nikki Haley will do a better job curing poverty than Barack Obama," Florida Senator Marco Rubio said participating in a Republican presidential debate in this South Carolina city.

Note: Haley's name appeared three times during the two-hour long debate. At another occasion, former Florida Governor Jeb Bush said Haley is at the top of the rankings of American Governors.

The State: THE BUZZ: S.C. Election Commission wants \$41.5 million for new voting machines

<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/politics-columns-blogs/the-buzz/article60284976.html>

Cassie Cope

Before hundreds of thousands of S.C. Republican voters head to the polls Saturday for their party's presidential primary, poll workers will be setting out roughly 13,000 voting machines that were purchased more than a decade ago — in 2004.

Note: This year, Gov. Nikki Haley put \$20 million for new machines in her executive budget proposal, unveiled last month. Haley suggests spending another \$20 million next year.

CBS News: Jeb Bush v. John Kasich: Who's the better governor?

<http://www.cbsnews.com/news/republican-debate-jeb-bush-v-john-kasich-whos-the-better-governor/>

Rebecca Kaplan

During Saturday's GOP debate, Ohio Gov. John Kasich and Florida Gov. Jeb Bush argued over the growth of Medicaid in their respective states. It began when Kasich was asked about how enrollment and costs in the program grew after he pushed through an expansion of the Medicaid program.

Note: In a parting jab, Bush said that he wanted South Carolinians to know that Kasich had expanded Medicaid but South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley had not. He said the Cato Institute, which ranks governors based on spending, "rank [Kasich] right at the bottom. And Governor Haley is ranked at the top."

Greenville News: Bush, Kasich campaign in Golden Strip before debate

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/politics/2016/02/13/bush-kasich-campaign-golden-strip-before-debate/80342220/>

Amanda Coyne

Hundreds of voters got up bright and early to see Gov. Jeb Bush in Fountain Inn less than 12 hours before the presidential candidate hit the debate stage. "My debate prep is hanging out with my four grandchildren," Bush said at the relaxed town hall, which was filled with a standing room only crowd in the 420-person capacity Younts Center theater.

Note: The former Florida governor dinged Kasich for expanding Medicaid in Ohio under the Affordable Care Act while praising South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley for refusing Medicaid expansion.

Florence Morning News: In Florence speech, Bill Clinton touts wife's bipartisan work, experience

<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/politics-columns-blogs/the-buzz/article60320226.html>

Joshua Lloyd

At a Hillary Clinton campaign event in Florence on Saturday night, former Democratic President Bill Clinton said his wife's record shows that she's willing to work with Republicans on tough issues to make real progress. About 650 people gathered in the commons area of the Smith University Center at Francis Marion University for the "Fighting for Us Rally," to listen to Bill Clinton's stump speech for Hillary.

Note: Clinton also praised South Carolina politicians and Republican Gov. Nikki Haley for the swift removal of the Confederate flag from statehouse grounds after the murder of nine black parishioners in Charleston.

Note: "South Carolina, after that horrible tragedy, gave the country an incredible gift," Clinton said. "We got to watch democracy come alive again."

WBTW: Former President Bill Clinton stops in Florence to campaign for presidential hopeful Hillary Clinton

<http://wbtw.com/2016/02/14/former-president-bill-clinton-stops-in-florence-to-campaign-for-presidential-hopeful-hillary-clinton/>

Jamarlo Phillips

Former Democratic President Bill Clinton spoke to hundreds inside the Smith Center at Francis Marion University Saturday night on behalf of his wife and Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Clinton. Clinton spoke to a room of more than 600 people. He spoke to those who attended for about thirty minutes. Clinton says if elected, Hillary Clinton would enforce direct democracy.

Note: Clinton also highlighted the efforts of South Carolina Governor Nikki Haley for the removal of the Confederate flag from statehouse grounds after the Charleston church shooting.

Note: "South Carolina, after that horrible tragedy, gave the country an incredible gift because we got to watch democracy become alive again," mentioned Clinton

S.C. Presidential Primary News:

Post and Courier: GOP debate in Greenville gets heated

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160214/PC1603/160219605>

Cynthia Roldan

What began as an homage to the late conservative icon Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia broke down into the biggest and most heated verbal brawl of the season as Donald Trump berated Jeb Bush and even struck out at other members of the Bush family during the last TV debate ahead of the South Carolina GOP primary.

Post and Courier: Trump still leads in S.C. but Kasich jumps into second, new polls shows

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160213/PC1603/160219618>

Schuyler Kropf

A new poll has Donald Trumps still in first place in the South Carolina Republican presidential primary but with Ohio Gov. John Kasich moving up. Trump holds his consistent 35 percent range in the survey by American Research Group, while Kasich - who came in second in New Hampshire - is in second in South Carolina with a 15 percent following.

The State: Third post-New Hampshire poll shows Trump leading in SC

<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/politics-columns-blogs/the-buzz/article60278906.html>

Andrew Shain

A third straight poll released since the New Hampshire primary shows Republican presidential front-runner

Donald Trump continuing to lead South Carolina. The New York billionaire received 35 percent of support from likely S.C. Republican primary voters in the poll from American Research Group.

The State: GOP candidates: Wait on new justice

<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/politics-columns-blogs/the-buzz/article60318206.html>

Andrew Shain

The next president should nominate the successor to U.S. Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia, the Republican candidates for president said Saturday during the last debate before the S.C. GOP primary. Scalia, the longest serving justice at 30 years and the leading conservative voice on the Supreme Court, died in his sleep Saturday while visiting Texas. He was 79.

Greenville News: Who won GOP debate? Everyone has a different spin

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/politics/2016/02/14/who-won-gop-debate-everyone-has-different-spin/80343498/>

Amanda Coyne

Sen. Lindsey Graham, Sen. Tim Scott and Rep. Jeff Duncan advocated for their chosen candidates after the fiery Republican debate at the Peace Center, while Donald Trump and Ben Carson spoke for themselves and Gov. John Kasich stuck close to news network cameras.

The State: Revenge of the populists: Sanders, Trump ride wave

<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/politics-columns-blogs/the-buzz/article60301286.html>

Jamie Self

Alice Rodriguez says she “used to be that person,” the one who did not care about politics. But she says she cannot afford to ignore it anymore. “I’ve gone through situations where I’ve had to decide whether to choose to go to the doctor or have food. I have to have food,” said the 32-year-old Columbia substitute teacher and artist.

Associated Press: GOP candidates joust over foreign policy, immigration

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

Julie Pace, Will Weissert

Republican presidential candidates jostled over immigration and foreign policy in a raucous debate that was shaken by the death of Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia hours before they took the stage. Scalia's death thrust the future of the high court into the center of a heated presidential campaign.

Associated Press: Debate Takeaways: Civil court discussion gives way to brawl

http://m.apnews.com/ap/db_268748/contentdetail.htm?contentguid=oZpatLT4

Nancy Benac

Saturday's Republican presidential debate was the perfect spot for GOP candidates to try and project legal gravitas after the death of Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia. That was a fairly civil discussion. Then came the brawls: First, Donald Trump and Jeb Bush went after each other. Then Ted Cruz and Marco Rubio got into their own shouting match, which even devolved into barbs about who can speak Spanish.

Greenville News: The L word -- liar -- used repeatedly in GOP debate

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/local/2016/02/13/gop-debate-online/80354230/>

Mark Barrett

Republican presidential candidates Jeb Bush and Ted Cruz attacked Donald Trump over his business record, past less conservative positions and ability to deliver on his promises during Saturday's nationally televised debate in the Peace Center in downtown Greenville.

Spartanburg Herald Journal: Candidates' supporters express optimism at GOP debate in Greenville

<http://www.goupstate.com/article/20160213/articles/160219787>

Chris Lavender

Spartanburg County Republican leaders said Saturday night's Republican presidential debate at the Peace Center in Greenville could tighten the race in advance of South Carolina's Feb. 20 primary. Spartanburg County Republican Party Chairman Bill Conley, who was at the event, said Florida Sen. Marco Rubio had made some strong points during the debate.

New York Times: In Republican Debate, Jeb Bush Attacks Donald Trump

http://www.nytimes.com/2016/02/14/us/politics/republican-debate.html?_r=0

Patrick Healy

Former Gov. Jeb Bush of Florida blasted Donald J. Trump for insulting the Bush family and ridiculed the idea that Mr. Trump could be commander in chief during a contentious and sometimes nasty Republican presidential debate in Greenville, S.C., on Saturday, a week before a crucial primary in the state.

Greenville News: Without strong showing, SC could be end of line for Bush

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/politics/elections/2016/02/12/without-strong-showing-sc-could-end-line-bush/80236722/>

Amanda Coyne

In a packed event room at the Anderson Civic Center on Friday morning, Jeb Bush asked South Carolina to switch the trajectory of the Republican presidential race by choosing him in next Saturday's primary. "You can change this race," Bush said. "You can change this by supporting someone who is a conservative reformer."

Washington Post: GOP candidates savage one another in last debate before S.C. primary

https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/gop-candidates-savage-each-other-in-last-debate-before-sc-primary/2016/02/13/cb047fec-d1f1-11e5-abc9-ea152f0b9561_story.html

Philip Rucker, Jenna Johnson

The six remaining Republican presidential candidates sparred with ferocity over U.S. foreign policy in a debate here Saturday night, with front-runner Donald Trump savaging former president George W. Bush's intervention in Iraq, which helped spawn more than a decade of instability in the Middle East.

USA Today: Top takeaways from the South Carolina GOP debate

<http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/onpolitics/2016/02/14/republican-debate-trump-rubio-bush-kasich-carson-cruz/80365084/>

Cooper Allen, Paul Singer

Saturday night's debate was dominated by shouting matches. We lost track of how often the words "lie" and "liar" were used. Donald Trump and Jeb Bush got into heated arguments over and over again, as did Ted Cruz and Marco Rubio.

Politico: Bush and Rubio battle for third

The GOP rivals hunker down for debate prep, aiming to claim an advantage in the race to be the Trump alternative.

<http://www.politico.com/story/2016/02/south-carolina-primary-jeb-bush-marco-rubio-219240#ixzz409Uhxipx>

Alex Isenstadt, Michael Crowley

As the bruising Republican primary fight moves south, the rivalry between Jeb Bush and Marco Rubio is nearing a turning point. Rubio's advisers see South Carolina as something close to make-or-break after a disastrous fifth-place showing in the New Hampshire deeply wounded his candidacy.

Rock Hill Herald: Carson, Rubio, Bush to campaign in York Co. on Sunday, Monday, Tuesday

<http://www.heraldonline.com/news/politics-government/article60043626.html#storylink=cpy>

Andrew Dys, Bristow Marchant

It's shaping up to be a busy week of politicking in York County, leading up to the Feb. 20 Republican presidential primary.

The State: Poll: Hillary Clinton holds strong lead in SC primary

<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/politics-columns-blogs/the-buzz/article60275571.html>

Jamie Self

Hillary Clinton maintains a strong lead in South Carolina's Democratic presidential primary, according to a new poll – the first in the state since Iowa and New Hampshire's nominating contests. The frontrunner is leading with 65 percent support among the state's likely Democratic primary voters, while U.S. Sen. Bernie Sanders of Vermont has 27 percent support, according to an American Research Group survey released Saturday.

Post and Courier: Bill Clinton rallies the Pee Dee to Hillary campaign

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160213/PC1603/160219610>

Gavin Jackson

Former President Bill Clinton said the Emanuel AME Church shooting showed America that South Carolina can move forward — united — as he promoted his wife Hillary Clinton and her pledge to heal racial divides.

“South Carolina, after the horrible shooting in Charleston, gave the country an incredible gift because we got to watch democracy come alive again,” Clinton said.

S.C. General Assembly News:

Florence Morning News: Bill would forbid use of ticket quotas by SC police agencies

<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/article60276776.html#storylink=cpy>

Jessica Imbimbo

A bill is being processed through the South Carolina General Assembly that would make citation quotas for law enforcement illegal in the state. Legislators who proposed the bill say it will help rebuild the seemingly tainted relationship between law enforcement and the people they serve.

Anderson Independent: S.C. Senate to debate pipeline rule changes

<http://www.independentmail.com/news/sc-senate-to-debate-pipeline-rule-changes-this-week-2baaa25c-54c9-4847-e053-0100007fb890-368729661.html>

Mike Eads

Legislation aimed at keeping Kinder Morgan from using South Carolina courts to force landowners to grant easements for its proposed \$1 billion Palmetto Pipeline is headed for the state Senate floor this week. The bill would prevent private, for profit companies that aren't regulated from using eminent domain to take private property. Regulated utilities would not be subject to the law.

The State: Out-of-state coal ash dumping a concern in South Carolina

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/article60285531.html>

Sammy Fretwell

Few things have unified the people of Liberty like the prospect of seeing coal ash brought to their community by an out-of-state waste company. The company wants to haul potentially tons of ash to a new landfill in the hilly area of northwest South Carolina. At a crowded public meeting Thursday in Pickens County, resident after resident ripped the proposal.

Opinion / Editorial Roundup:

Spartanburg Herald Journal: Obama policy endangers South Carolinians

<http://www.goupstate.com/article/20160214/opinion/160219841>

Editorial

In the lawsuit South Carolina filed against the federal government last week, the state claims that Washington's refusal to follow through on its plutonium disposal plans will turn the Palmetto State into a permanent repository for the dangerous nuclear material. Most South Carolinians saw this coming decades ago.

Post and Courier: State lawmakers must reform parole system, retain prison staff

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160214/PC1002/160219627>

Jon Ozmint

Over the past six years, we have made significant progress in improving our criminal justice system. The Sentencing Reform Act of 2010, coupled with national population trends, has reduced our inmate population, allowing Gov. Nikki Haley and Corrections Director Bryan Stirling to shutter several small prisons.

Greenville News: Best GOP vote is against Trump

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/opinion/editorials/2016/02/12/editorial-best-gop-vote-against-trump/80190978/>

Editorial

On Feb. 20, South Carolina Republicans go to the polls with an important responsibility as the first primary in the South and one that has voted for the eventual nominee every time since 1980 with one exception. This is an opportunity for voters here to send a clear message about the qualities they want (or don't want) in the next president.

Post and Courier: If a school program is broken ...

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160214/PC1002/160219633>

Editorial

The federal Teacher Incentive Fund, introduced in 2010, made sense. It would provide money for school districts to recruit, retain and reward good teachers and administrators. Only it didn't work — at least in the Charleston County School District.

Post and Courier: Open minds on closing lanes

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160214/PC1002/160219634>

Editorial

Downtown Charleston is uniquely walkable and bikeable. West Ashley features miles of high quality bike lanes and paths. But crossing between those two parts of town on foot or two wheels can be a truly harrowing experience. That shouldn't be the case. Charleston County and city of Charleston officials have been researching and planning a bike and pedestrian path over the Ashley River for years.

Post and Courier: S.C. primaries primer: Expect the unexpected

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160214/PC1001/160219628>

Kathleen Parker

Out on the hustings, people often ask me: "Can you explain South Carolina?" I just shake my head. It's complicated, I say. The simple answer, eternal and everlasting, is anti-secessionist James Petigru's remark: "South Carolina is too small for a republic and too large for an insane asylum."

The State: When logrolling invades the ballot box

<http://www.thestate.com/opinion/opn-columns-blogs/cindi-ross-scope/article60061036.html>

Cindi Ross Scoppe

WE USUALLY think of logrolling as something that happens in the Legislature and in the Congress, when one lawmaker agrees to vote for a budget with spending he doesn't like because it includes spending he does like, often unnecessary and in his district.

S.C. Federal Delegation News:

Post and Courier: In selecting Scalia successor, S.C. Congressional delegation puts Obama on notice

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160213/PC1603/160219616>

Emma Dumain

South Carolina's two Republican U.S. Senators said Saturday night they weren't inclined to help President Barack Obama confirm a Supreme Court Justice to succeed Antonin Scalia. Just hours after the news was announced of Justice Scalia's death, Sens. Lindsey Graham and Tim Scott were joining Senate GOP leaders in suggesting a successor shouldn't be installed until after Obama leaves the White House.

South Carolina News:

Post and Courier: With heroin abuse on the rise in S.C., a bill in Congress could help

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160213/PC1603/160219749>

Emma Dumain, Melissa Boughton

A few weeks back, Republican leaders in the U.S. Senate said the unthinkable. They wanted to fast-track a bill to stem the rising tide of opioid and heroin abuse casting shadows on all 50 states, including South Carolina, and Democrats stood ready to help. In a Congress plagued by partisan dysfunction, it seemed almost too good to be true. That might end up being the case.

Note: Elaine Pawlowski, who was named to Gov. Nikki Haley's prescription drug abuse task force in the years after the 2012 death of her son from substance abuse, underscored the significance of establishing treatment options outside of abstinence-based programs, such as Narcotics Anonymous.

The State: EXCLUSIVE: In SC, more people pulled guns on police in 2015 than 2014, data shows

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/article60255371.html#storylink=cpy>

Glen Luke Flanagan

More people pulled guns on police during a record number of officer-involved shootings in 2015 compared to the previous year, and the number of police injured in shootings rose by half. With 48 officer-involved shootings, 2015 marked the highest number in South Carolina since the State Law Enforcement Division began keeping track in 1999.

Anderson Independent: Higher fuel tax would hurt some truckers, all nonprofits, S.C. residents say

<http://www.independentmail.com/news/higher-fuel-tax-would-hurt-some-truckers-all-nonprofits-sc-residents->

say-2b47f48e-f2d8-51d5-e053-010-368730611.html

Abe Hardesty

For many South Carolina businesses the discomfort of a higher fuel tax, which is being debated by the South Carolina General Assembly, will be a temporary expense that will quickly be handed to others. Nonprofit organizations, on the other hand, would take a hit that could impact their ability to serve those in need.

Sun News: Myrtle Beach officials: Low numbers at Bikefest prep meetings a positive sign

<http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/news/local/article60051486.html#storylink=cpy>

Elizabeth Townsend

Myrtle Beach police are laying out their Memorial Day Bikefest plans for area businesses months in advance at weekly meetings in February held at the Myrtle Beach Convention Center, but the turnout has been minimal.

Local News:

Aiken Standard: Job vitality discussed following proposal to terminate MOX

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/article/20160213/AIK0101/160219753/job-vitality-discussed-following-proposal-to-terminate-mox>

Derrek Asberry

A job lost at the Savannah River Site is just like losing a job anywhere in Aiken County – both negatively impact the economy, according to local stakeholders. The Department of Energy budget request for fiscal year 2017 calls for the termination of the MOX project including the SRS Mixed Oxide Fuel Fabrication Facility.

Post and Courier: In Charleston history classes, students talk about Emanuel AME 'every single day'

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160214/PC16/160219682>

Deanna Pan

In Kara Keale's AP U.S. History class at Burke High School, junior Rashon Young scanned an article for a class project on CNN.com about a speech Hillary Clinton had made following the shooting at Emanuel AME Church. On a purple sheet of construction paper, he jotted down four points with a black Sharpie marker — the salient facts of last summer's defining tragedy:

National News:

Associated Press: In victory or dissent, Scalia was a man of strong opinions

<http://bigstory.ap.org/urn:publicid:ap.org:2a7ebd7be1824a1c878dab7fed29c242>

Mark Sherman

Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia kept your attention, whether you liked him or not. He was a big personality who rather enjoyed the spotlight, and he did not often shy from controversy. Scalia deeply influenced a generation of conservative legal thinkers and was a lightning rod for criticism from the left almost from the moment President Ronald Reagan put him on the court in 1986.

Associated Press: Obama to nominate Scalia successor 'in due time'

<http://bigstory.ap.org/urn:publicid:ap.org:32b51909d19f4edab655589c896b29d7>

Kathleen Hennessey, Donna Cassata

President Barack Obama declared Saturday night he would seek to fill the Supreme Court seat left vacant by the death of Justice Antonin Scalia, charging into a heated and likely prolonged election-year fight with Republicans. Obama said a nomination was "bigger than any one party."

Brian Symmes

Cell: 803-673-9437

Office: 803-734-0304