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Subject: Morning Clips – Friday, March 4, 2016

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## Morning Clips – Friday, March 4, 2016

### Governor Nikki Haley News:

**Wall Street Journal:** South Carolina Governor Nikki Haley Keeps Pressing for Rubio

<http://www.wsj.com/articles/south-carolina-governor-nikki-haley-keeps-pressing-for-rubio-1457054385>

Valerie Bauerlein

South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley isn't ready to say whether she will support Donald Trump should he win the Republican presidential nomination. Ms. Haley, a rising star in the Republican Party, said she refuses to dwell on Mr. Trump's victories because she is too busy campaigning for Florida Sen. Marco Rubio. "I'm just not going to think like that," she said Wednesday at a news conference in Columbia, S.C.

**Note:** Ms. Haley plans to campaign for Mr. Rubio in Florida on Saturday in advance of the state's March 15 primary, spokesman Rob Godfrey said. "She'll do whatever Sen. Rubio and his team asks of her," he said, "so long as it doesn't take away her time and efforts from being governor."

**Post and Courier:** Haley is very politely making a name for herself in the national GOP

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160304/PC16/160309798/1177/haley-is-very-politely-making-a-name-for-herself-in-the-national-gop>

Brian Hicks

This year, the presidential campaign trail is littered with candidates who tried to tangle with Trump. He's made them all look like amateurs, which apparently they were. But not Haley. The governor is the only Republican who has successfully stood up to Trump, time and again, all the while maintaining her poise and composure.

**New York Times:** The Beast Is Us

[http://www.nytimes.com/2016/03/04/opinion/campaign-stops/the-beast-is-us.html?\\_r=0](http://www.nytimes.com/2016/03/04/opinion/campaign-stops/the-beast-is-us.html?_r=0)

Timothy Egan

You heard the word "scary" used a lot this week, that and much more. Not from the usual scolds. Or Democrats. The loudest alarms came from desperate, panicked Republicans, warning of the man who is destroying the Party of Lincoln before our eyes. "The man is evil," said Stuart Stevens, a chief strategist for Mitt Romney in 2012. Romney himself called Donald Trump a fraud on Thursday.

**Note:** But it's not mainstream to toss aside longstanding American policy against war crimes, advocating torture "even if it doesn't work." It's not mainstream to approvingly pass on quotes from the Fascist Benito Mussolini. It's not mainstream to be "everything we teach our kids not to do in kindergarten," as Gov. Nikki Haley, the Republican governor of South Carolina, said.

**Post and Courier:** Federal data could turn the tide in offshore drilling decision

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160303/PC16/160309760>

Bo Peterson

Female loggerhead turtles are moving to coastal waters to mate. The sea turtle nesting season is open in Florida, and the first nest could be laid in the Lowcountry in little more than a month. Meanwhile, federal regulators are expected to announce in mid-March whether they will propose leasing the same waters to offshore oil and natural gas exploration and drilling. The correlation is staggering: 87 percent of the potential leasing area off South Carolina is considered critical habitat for

recently hatched juvenile turtles, the sargassum sea where they would feed.

**Note:** The pending decision, widely opposed along the coast, has divided communities and legislators over an issue that could define its future. A coalition of governors, including Gov. Nikki Haley, worked largely behind the scenes with industry lobbyists to urge federal officials in the Obama administration to open the coast to it.

**The State:** Coal ash bill signed; pipeline legislation passes Senate

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/article63957092.html>

Sammy Fretwell

A coalition of environmentalists and conservative politicians has scored legislative victories that many say will protect communities from coal ash dumping and unwanted petroleum pipelines.

**Note:** Gov. Nikki Haley signed a bill Wednesday that is intended to prevent companies from depositing coal ash into construction dumps, which are not regulated as tightly as lined municipal solid waste dumps.

**Note:** "I am pleased to sign this legislation into law today," Haley said this week. "It is absolutely essential that we protect our environment from out-of-state waste, and I'm proud to help bring these much needed protections into law."

**Greenville News:** Landfill company plans action after coal ash bill signed into law

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/environment/2016/03/03/landfill-company-plans-action-after-coal-ash-bill-signed-into-law/81264402/>

Rick Brundrett

The attorney for a company fighting to open a landfill in Pickens County that would accept coal ash told The Greenville News that his company is planning to pursue all "available legal remedies" in wake of a new law that puts restrictions on burying the waste in South Carolina.

**Note:** Gov. Nikki Haley has signed into law a bill that would stop MRR Pickens, LLC, a North Carolina based company, from disposing coal ash at a landfill near Liberty

**State House Report:** Slim pickings this year for pork, roads, colleges

<http://www.statehousereport.com/2016/03/04/slim-pickings-on-budget/>

Bill Davis

Nine years ago when the state's most famous hiker, Mark Sanford, was still governor, the state Senate approved a line item that would divert nearly \$1 million to erect a national green bean museum in Lake City. The same year, it voted to create a nearly \$4 million for a Florence-centric museum. But perhaps the oddest item the legislature funded in recent years was new fire truck for a volunteer fire department in former House Ways and Means chair Dan Cooper's district in Piedmont after Sanford vetoed it the first time.

**Post and Courier:** Senate roads plan draws mixed reviews

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160303/PC1603/160309774/1005/speaker-says-sc-roads-need-more-than-x2018-band-aid-x2019-fix>

Gavin Jackson

Gov. Nikki Haley and a majority of Republicans claimed victory for a \$400 million roads plan that has no gas tax increase and puts more power over the state Department of Transportation in the governor's hands. "Republicans in the Senate did a great thing," Haley said in a social media post Thursday her office staff told reporters to reference. "Their plan has more money to fix our roads, real reform to the DOT and the Infrastructure Bank so that money is spent the right way, and no tax increase."

**Lawyer Herald:** Governor of Mississippi Faces Lawsuit Over the State's Flag with Confederate Battle Emblem

<http://www.lawyerherald.com/articles/36937/20160303/governor-mississippi-lawsuit-flag-confederate-battle-emblem-phil-bryant.htm>

An attorney filed a lawsuit against the Governor of Mississippi, Phil Bryant, seeking to remove the last state flag of the nation, which contains the Confederate battle emblem. The lawsuit was filed on Monday, stating that the flag violates the Equal Protection and Due Process Clauses of the 14th Amendment.

**Note:** In the wake of an apparently racist shooting that left nine African Americans dead in Charleston, South Carolina, Gov. Nikki Haley has asked that the confederate flag, also known as the 'Stars and Bars,' be taken down from in front of the state capitol building, adding political pressure to Mississippi to remove the charged symbol from its flag

## **S.C. General Assembly News:**

**The State:** Republican SC House leader rips Senate GOP roads bill

<http://www.thestate.com/news/politics-government/politics-columns-blogs/the-buzz/article63909117.html>

Jamie Self and Andy Shain

A state Senate Republican plan to spend \$400 million on roads without raising the gas tax is on a collision course with the GOP-controlled S.C. House, despite winning the governor's blessing Thursday. "This plan kicks the can further down the road and into a giant pothole," House Speaker Jay Lucas, R-Darlington, said of the proposal that Senate Republicans offered Wednesday, after nearly a year of gridlock on a bill aimed at fixing the state's roads and bridges.

**Note:** Gov. Nikki Haley posted her support in a Facebook message Thursday, calling the Senate GOP plan a "great thing" and "exactly what we need in South Carolina." "Bring it home!" Haley exclaimed.

**Greenville News:** Sen. Larry Martin receives robocall on himself

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/politics/2016/03/03/sen-larry-martin-receives-robocall-himself/81268048/>

Tim Smith

As Sen. Larry Martin, a Pickens Republican and chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee, tells it, he was sitting at home during dinner one night when he received a survey call informing him about Senator Martin's efforts to push an "Obama style" gas tax increase of more than 70 percent. Then the caller asked what he would tell Sen. Martin

**Note:** "We thank the sponsors of this amendment for their efforts to take politics out of fixing potholes," said Dana Beach, executive director of the Conservation League, "and we applaud Gov. (Nikki) Haley for her key role in the debate. It is critically important that the Senate pass the bill without weakening amendments and that the House concur with the Senate in conference committee."

**Note:** Gov. Nikki Haley on social media praised Senate Republicans for doing "a great thing yesterday."

**WCBD:** Charleston County, state at odds over Interstate 526

<http://counton2.com/2016/03/03/charleston-county-state-at-odds-over-interstate-526/>

Kelly Bazzle

Thursday, the State Bank met and revised a resolution forcing Charleston County to come up with the money for the Interstate 526 road project. The bank said in December that Charleston County must come up with a plan to pay more than \$300 Million for the project by March 30<sup>th</sup>. The vote Thursday took out the word "binding" from two places in the resolution, but the state bank lawyer said the change doesn't change the deadlines and the nearly impossible task set to Charleston County Council.

**WFXG:** Political pressure mounts over state roads debate

<http://www.wfxg.com/story/31382226/political-pressure-mounts-over-state-roads-debate>

Will Whitson

Inside the State House, South Carolina Senators are gearing up for the big roads debate now that the filibuster is lifted. The political pressure is mounting now that Gov. Nikki Haley signaled her support. Some lawmakers say the roads plan the Senate will debate next week doesn't have a stable source of money for road funding and repairs. That's what the increased gas tax, which Senators struck Wednesday night, was designed to be. The plan does provide funds every year, but could face trouble during a recession.

**The Item:** Roads bill up for debate not a long-term fix, senators say

<http://www.theitem.com/stories/roads-bill-up-for-debate-not-a-long-term-fix-senators-say,264242>

Jim Hilley

State Sen. Thomas McElveen said the roads bill that is set for debate in the Senate next week is being called "The Patch Act" around the General Assembly, because it is a patch and not a long-term fix for the Palmetto State's deteriorating road ...

**WIS:** Impact of the SC roads bill

<http://www.wistv.com/story/31382929/impact-of-the-sc-roads-bill>

Jack Kuenzie

A breakthrough in the State House for a plan to fix South Carolina's roads may not be the breakthrough that you're hoping for. The breaking of the Senate logjam is a significant step that could put a bill on the governor's desk. But no vote has been taken and Senate Democrats have yet to weigh in, which is set to happen next week. So there is movement now, something we were not seeing a couple of days ago.

## S.C. Political News:

**McClatchy DC:** S.C. senator avoids election chaos, slams Obama's foreign policy at CPAC

<http://www.mcclatchydc.com/news/politics-government/election/article63851512.html>

Vera Bergengruen

Sen. Tim Scott, R-S.C., hammered President Barack Obama's foreign policy in a speech at the Conservative Political Action Conference on Thursday, staying out of the presidential election talk that dominated most of the day's events.

**The State:** EXCLUSIVE: Bernice Scott considering a Richland County Council comeback?

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/article63925317.html>

Sarah Ellis

Richland County Councilman Kelvin Washington, facing a felony DUI charge, does not plan to resign from County Council, his fellow Lower Richland Councilman Norman Jackson said Thursday. Jackson said he was told by one of Washington's family members Thursday that Washington is working through some health issues and will decide by the end of this month whether to run for re-election. His term as the District 10 representative is up this year.

**Note:** On Wednesday, Gov. Nikki Haley publicly called for the resignation of Washington and 11th Circuit Solicitor Donnie Myers, who also recently was charged with DUI. Myers' charge, however, is a misdemeanor.

**WIS:** Family member: Councilman Kelvin Washington will not resign

<http://www.wistv.com/story/31378752/family-member-councilman-kelvin-washington-will-not-resign>

Jeremy Turnage

Richland County Councilman Norman Jackson said Thursday that Councilman Kelvin Washington will not resign from his position on County Council, per a family member. There have been calls for Washington to resign after his arrest on a felony DUI charge over the weekend. Jackson said the family member also said Washington has "serious health problems" that are being evaluated. He will

make a decision by the end of March whether he will file for re-election. His term ends this year.

**Post and Courier:** State Rep. Wendell Gilliard to visit Tent City <http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160303/PC16/160309777/1005/state-rep-gilliard-to-visit-tent-city>

Diane Knich

State Rep. Wendell Gilliard will tour Charleston's homeless encampment known as Tent City at 11 a. m. Monday. Gilliard, D-Charleston, will be joined by representatives from the state Department of Social Services. Gilliard for months has been pushing the General Assembly to allocate money to help the state's homeless residents.

**Independent Mail:** Political Pulse: Gambrell answers questions about campaign spending <http://www.independentmail.com/news/political-pulse-gambrell-answers-questions-about-campaign-spending-2d285e6f-d302-1fe2-e053-0100007fd-370990471.html>

Kirk Brown

At a recent political forum, state Rep. Mike Gambrell invited the public to scrutinize his campaign expenditures and other financial records that are posted on the State Ethics Commission website. So the Independent Mail took him up on the invitation. Since taking office in 2007, the Honea Path Republican has collected at least \$134,000 in campaign contributions and spent at least \$126,000 of that money, according to reports that he has filed with the ethics commission. He handily defeated Democrat Richard Kelly in 2008 and faced no opposition for his House seat after that.

## Opinion / Editorial Roundup:

**Post and Courier:** SPA should support solar

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160304/PC1002/160309742/1022&source=RSS>

Opinion

The State Ports Authority has the chance to be a leader and an ambassador for South Carolina's abundant solar power potential. It's too important an opportunity to pass up. The SPA planned to build solar panels on warehouse roofs, providing power for port operations. The project, if built, would be the state's second-largest solar producer.

**State House Report:** LETTER: Silent Haley must act on overdose, HIV rates

<http://www.statehousereport.com/2016/03/04/letter-silent-haley-must-act-on-overdose-hiv-rates/>

Letter to the Editor

Gov. [Nikki] Haley's silence on the overdose epidemic as well as the high rate of HIV in rural communities continues to risk the lives of thousands of South Carolinians. The PBS documentary that aired Monday, Feb. 29, 2016, Wilhemina's War, paints a bleak picture of those that are infected with HIV in S.C. SC ranks eighth in the nation for HIV rates and ranks 16th in the nation for death from drug overdoses.

**The State:** Editorial: If he cares about Richland County, Kelvin Washington will resign

<http://www.thestate.com/opinion/editorials/article63868217.html>

Editorial

YOU WOULD THINK an elected official who recently admitted in court that he didn't pay his state income taxes would do all he could to stay out of trouble. You would hope such a person would be so embarrassed by his transgression and so determined to win back or maintain the public's trust that he would obsessively avoid the risk of being accused of another crime.

**Note:** On Wednesday, Gov. Nikki Haley called on Mr. Washington and Solicitor Donnie Myers of Lexington County to resign because of their recent DUI charges. Mr. Myers was arrested Feb. 22 after his car left a Lexington County road and hit a utility pole. It's his third alcohol-related charge in just less than 11 years.

**Note:** If Mr. Washington cares about what's best for the county, its government and the people, he

will follow Gov. Haley's advice. People must have confidence in their public officials. We doubt many residents now have confidence in him as a public leader.

**Post and Courier:** Summerville Mayor Wiley Johnson defends showing up at crime scene

<http://www.postandcourier.com/article/20160303/PC16/160309764/1005/johnson-defends-crime-scene-visit>

Brenda Rindge

Summerville Mayor Wiley Johnson said he has no regrets about dropping by a crime scene last month while a police officer was talking to the victims. Johnson's action at the Feb. 6 incident, captured on the body camera worn by Summerville Police Cpl. Antonio Gantt, was "highly unusual," said National Fraternal Order of Police Executive Director James Pasco.

**Sun News:** Democrats, Republicans lining up to run for open Horry County Council seat

<http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/news/local/article63930627.html>

Charles Perry

Filing for Horry County Council's District 7 seat won't open for two more weeks, but candidates are already stepping up to run. Officials with the local Republican and Democratic parties say there's growing interest in the seat that serves Bucksport and Conway. The post's previous occupant, James Frazier, officially stepped down this week because of health problems. The 77-year-old Democrat had served on the council since 1980

## SC Agency News:

**WACH:** House panel launches probe into DJJ

<http://wach.com/news/local/house-panel-launches-probe-into-djj>

Matthew Stevens

The House Legislative Oversight Committee has sent a letter to Governor Nikki Haley's office saying they are investigating concerns about the health and safety of juveniles and employees at the Department of Juvenile Justice. The letter recognizes that the committee has concerns following an incident that happened at the DJJ facility off of Broad River Road Friday, February 26.

**The State:** Donnie Myers' DUI charge to be prosecuted by Department of Public Safety

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/article63855477.html>

Glen Luke Flanagan

Donnie Myers has wielded the law as 11th circuit solicitor for four decades. But now that he's on the other side of the courtroom facing a DUI charge, someone from outside the solicitor's office must step into the role of prosecutor. "Lexington County has a DUI prosecutor in the solicitor's office, but it would be a conflict of interest in this case for someone in the solicitor's office to prosecute," said Lt. Kelley Hughes with the S.C. Department of Public Safety.

## Local News:

**Greenville News:** GSP construction project nears finish

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/news/2016/03/03/gsp-construction-project-nears-finish/81278858/>

Amanda Coyne

The first phases of the Greenville-Spartanburg International Airport's four-year, \$125 million construction project will be complete in the coming week, spokesperson Rosylin Weston said. New ticket counters for Delta, Southwest and Allegiant airlines will be operational on March 9, and those for American and United will follow in April. A consolidated TSA checkpoint will open in the late spring, and the airport's new "great hall" will be the last to open to the public, in the late summer or

early fall, Weston said.

**Greenville News:** NEXT Manufacturing Center opens in West Greenville

<http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/money/2016/03/03/next-manufacturing-center-opens-west-greenville/81291036/>

Amanda Coyne

The 32,000 square foot industrial building on Birnie Street Extension could have been anything from a self-storage facility to a beer garden. Instead, NEXT and Braasch Building Group turned it into a collaborative co-working space for companies with manufacturing needs, the first of its kind in Greenville. "We figured if we all had to work together on a project, it might as well be something helpful to the community," said Russ Braasch, of the Braasch Building Group.

**Aiken Standard:** Savannah River Site's role in plutonium disposal could continue without MOX

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/article/20160303/AIK0101/160309762/1002/plutonium-disposal-at-srs-could-continue-sans-mox>

Dede Biles

A top local Department of Energy official believes the Savannah River Site could still play a big role in the disposal of excess weapons-grade plutonium if the plug is pulled on the Mixed Oxide Fuel Fabrication Facility, also known as MOX. "If MOX doesn't go forward, I believe we have the capabilities at the Savannah River Site to do that work" using an alternative method known as downblending, said Jack Craig, the Department of Energy manager of SRS.

**Sun News:** Army Corps passes over Myrtle Beach, North Myrtle Beach, for renourishment projects

<http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/news/local/article63917077.html>

Audrey Hudson

North Myrtle Beach and Myrtle Beach will not get any of the federal construction funding approved by Congress in December for beach renourishment projects. Officials are now looking for other sources of funding that could be available through the Army Corps of Engineers to replace tons of sand swept away by last year's storms.

**Note:** Gov. Nikki Haley included \$40 million in her budget request for the Department of Parks, Recreation, and Tourism to spend on emergency beach work to repair erosion caused by last year's storms, but the funding has yet to be approved by the state legislature.

**The State:** Columbia police stand guard over empty homes in neighborhoods hit hard by the flood

<http://www.thestate.com/news/local/article63900157.html>

Glen Luke Flanagan

David Cornman has lived on California Street in Columbia, not far from Timberlane Drive, for 35 years. Every 12-hour shift, three officers are dedicated to cover the area, with a fourth officer assisting as patrol duties allow, Roberts said. The department has been able to decrease its strength from what it was right after the flood, when 10 officers per shift – from various agencies around the state – patrolled the area to stop looters. As of March 1, Columbia police had spent 161 days, 1919 officer shifts, and 10,188 officer hours in the area, Roberts said.

**WIS:** School district: slave journal was 'insensitive' student assignment

<http://www.wistv.com/story/31383012/richland-two-slave-journal-was-insensitive-student-assignment>

Billie Jean Shaw

A Midlands woman is calling for an investigation of South Carolina teaching standards after students were given an assignment to pretend to be slaves. Now the school district is admitting the project was "insensitive." A class of third graders at Killian Elementary School was given a five-page handout during the last week of February. The front of it says, "My Life as a Slave." Qwayla Deter thinks the assignment is insensitive, and she's calling for a deeper look into the state's curriculum.

**Aiken Standard:** German students learn about American nursing at USC Aiken

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/article/20160303/AIK0101/160309773/1002/german-students-learn-about-american-nursing>

Larry Wood

For 12 German nursing exchange students working with peers at USC Aiken, their trip to America is an opportunity not only to expand their minds but also to open their hearts. During their stay, the students have been studying and learning American nursing science, methods and techniques in classes, labs and hospital settings. Outside class, they have connected with American students to gain a global perspective on life outside of Germany.

**Aiken Standard:** Adult Education relocates office to Graniteville

<http://www.aikenstandard.com/article/20160303/AIK0101/160309775/1002/>

The Aiken County Public School District's Adult Education program has relocated its administrative office to the Byrd Learning Center at 1 Willis Circle in Graniteville. Adult Education's new phone number is 803-663-4920, and its fax number is 803-663-4919. "On-site daily leadership at our hub for Adult Learning will advance the program and enable us to better support our students," Adult Education Director Pat Keating said. "I've spent 25 of the last 28 years in schools and am personally looking forward to walking the halls of one of our campuses again."

**Independent Mail:** Young workers, male and female, needed for Upstate manufacturing jobs

<http://www.independentmail.com/news/young-workers-male-and-female-needed-for-upstate-manufacturing-jobs-2d2cc41e-c838-667e-e053-0100007f-371000541.html>

Mike Eads

A conference Thursday underscored the need for men and women schooled in science, math and technology who can keep attracting manufacturing jobs to the Upstate. Speaker after speaker at the Anderson, Oconee and Pickens Business and Education Forum II told attendees at Clemson University's Madren Conference Center that manufacturers want students well-versed in STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) subjects and ready for increasingly automated workplaces.

**Island Packet:** Beaufort County government retirees: Let us keep our health insurance

<http://www.islandpacket.com/news/local/community/beaufort-news/article63854392.html>

Lucas High

Former Beaufort County employees poised to lose certain health care benefits in July are pleading with county leaders to let them keep their coverage. The expiring benefits allow employees who retire after more than 15 years of service with the county — or more than 25 years with the Bluffton Township Fire District — to continue health and dental coverage for themselves and any dependents claimed on the policies before they retired.

**Herald-Journal:** Union school superintendent blames teacher in nude photo incident

<http://www.goupstate.com/article/20160303/ARTICLES/160309911/1083/ARTICLES?Title=Union-school-superintendent-blames-teacher-in-nude-photo-incident>

The interim superintendent of the Union County School District said a teacher is to blame for the incident that led to her resignation. Leigh Anne Arthur, a Union County High School and Career and Technology Center teacher, resigned after a student took her phone, found a nude photo of her on it, took a picture of it with his phone and circulated the image among students.

**The Herald:** Chamber president outlines future plans

<http://www.theitem.com/stories/chamber-president-outlines-future-plans,264235>

Adrienne Sarvis

Greater Sumter Chamber of Commerce President and CEO Chris Hardy shared his vision for the organization during the Sumter Vision in Progress on Wednesday morning.

## National News:

**Associated Press:** US likely to report another month of solid hiring for Feb.

<http://bigstory.ap.org/article/5f7472cf7e3f472d93259a8c9776faa1/us-likely-report-another-month-solid-hiring-feb>

Josh Boak

U.S. workers have been largely insulated from a global slowdown. Job growth remains steady and wages are finally picking up — trends that will be put to the test in Friday's employment report for February. Economists have forecast that employers added a solid 195,000 jobs last month, up from the 151,000 added in January, according to data firm FactSet. And the unemployment rate is expected to remain at a low 4.9 percent.

**New York Times:** U.S. Economy Adds 242,000 Jobs; Unemployment at 4.9%

<http://www.nytimes.com/2016/03/05/business/economy/jobs-report-unemployment-wages.html>

Patricia Cohen

The government reported on Friday that employers added 242,000 workers in February, a hefty increase that highlights the labor market's steady gains at a time when voters around the country are homing in on their choices to lead each major party into the presidential election. Four years ago, at this point in the last presidential election cycle, the jobless rate was at 8.3 percent and the economic recovery was in a relatively early stage. Then worries centered on rising gas prices, deep consumer debt and government layoffs.

**Washington Post:** Swallowing hard, Trump rivals vow to back him if nominated

[https://www.washingtonpost.com/national/romney-mccain-trump-a-danger-for-americas-future/2016/03/03/c3a4b328-e1a2-11e5-8c00-8aa03741dced\\_story.html](https://www.washingtonpost.com/national/romney-mccain-trump-a-danger-for-americas-future/2016/03/03/c3a4b328-e1a2-11e5-8c00-8aa03741dced_story.html)

Nancy Benac

The Republican establishment and its last best hopes to defeat Donald Trump spent a long and extraordinary day denouncing the billionaire businessman as dangerous, a “phony” and a “con man” unfit for office. Then, when it was all over, Marco Rubio, Ted Cruz and John Kasich swallowed hard and said they'd support Trump if he wins the GOP nomination. Their pained commitments, at the end of the 11th GOP debate on Thursday, put into sharp focus the dilemma the Republican Party faces as Trump continues to dominate the race for delegates and the campaign conversation.

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