



Real Time with Bill Maher: General Michael Hayden on National Security and the Election (HBO)

## WAPO HIGHLIGHTS:

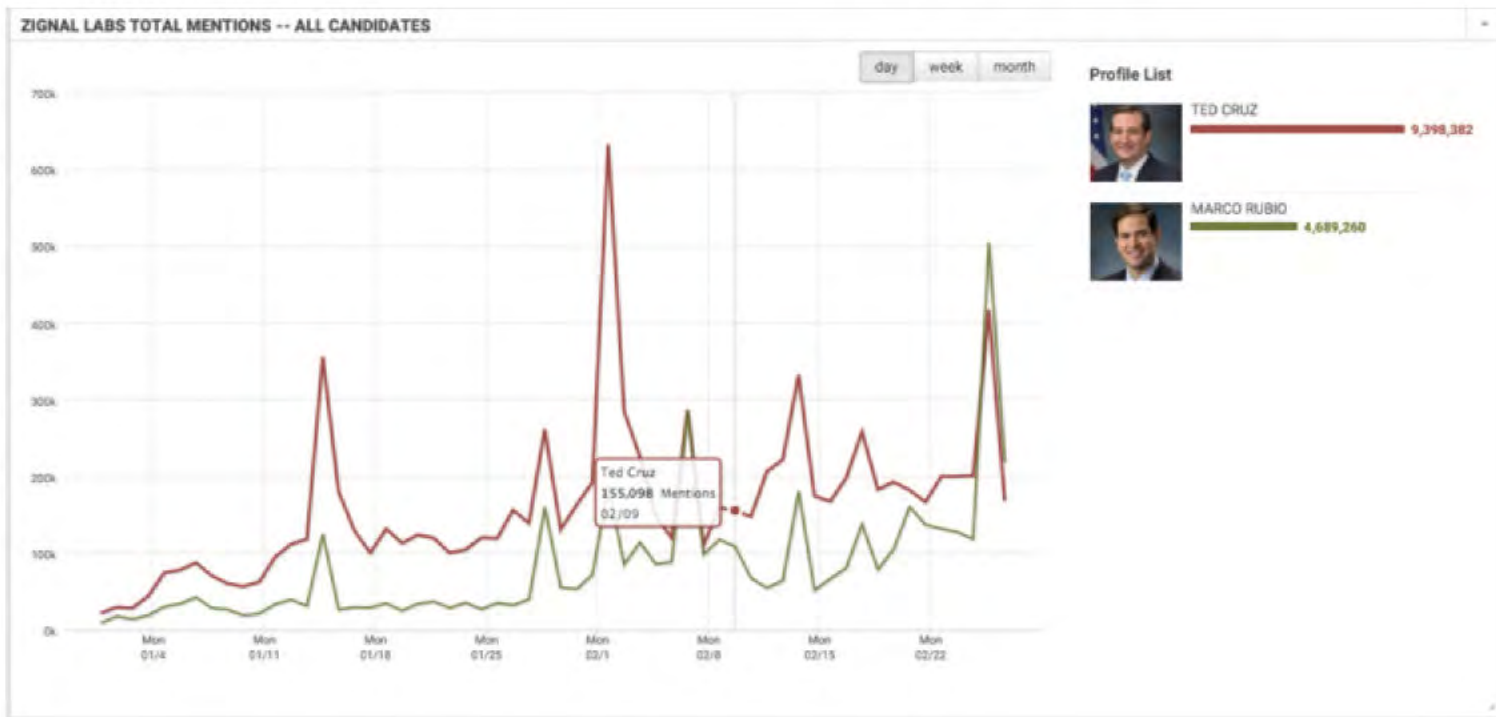
-- **“These congressional candidates got inspiration from Sanders – but little else,”** by **David A. Fahrenthold**: “Sanders says his ‘political revolution’ is also about transforming Congress. But, in campaigns for the House and Senate, the revolution is not going well. **There are more than 30 Sanders supporters running [for office], including an SNL alum in Iowa and a former truck driver who got himself tattooed with a silhouette of Sanders.** Only a handful of these ‘Bernie-crats’ have any shot at winning. The rest are disorganized, underfunded – and jumping into races with very long odds. One is trying to beat the head of the Democratic Party in a Democratic primary. Another is trying to beat the Republican speaker of the House. In two districts, there are actually two Bernie-crats running, taking donations to battle each other. **This wave of candidates illustrates Sanders’ powerful rhetoric against Wall Street. But the struggle shows how much Sanders must do to catch up with his promised ‘revolution’** ... [because] revolutions must be organized, after all.”

-- **“Syria’s cease-fire is working, at least for now,”** by Liz Sly and Zakaria Zakaria: “The unthinkable happened in Syria on Saturday as an internationally mandated truce unexpectedly took hold across much of the country, raising hopes that the beginning of an end to the five-year-old crisis may be in sight. There were scattered skirmishes and bursts of artillery fire across some of the front lines, a car bomb killed two people in the province of Hama, and Syrian government warplanes dropped barrel bombs on a village in Idlib province, without causing casualties. But for the first time in as long as anyone can remember, the guns were almost completely silent, offering Syrians a welcome respite from the relentless bloodshed that has killed in excess of a quarter of a million people.”

-- **“The growing U.N. scandal over sex abuse and ‘peacekeeper babies’,”** by Kevin Sieff: “The neighborhood is a patchwork of low-slung buildings, scorched and looted in the civil war, where the U.N. was supposed to come to the rescue. But in a number of homes, women and girls are raising babies they say are the children of U.N. troops who abused or exploited them. ‘Peacekeeper babies,’ the U.N. calls them ... **Since the U.N. peacekeeping mission here began in 2014, its employees have been formally accused of sexually abusing or exploiting 42 local civilians, mostly underage girls.** ‘There was no way to get food or money at the time -- they promised to help us if we slept with them,” said then-16-year-old Rosine Mengue, who received the equivalent of \$4 in each encounter with a peacekeeper. The allegations come amid one of the biggest scandals to plague the U.N. in years ... Officials said that peacekeeping contingents from about 10 countries have been implicated in the sex-abuse scandal.”

## **SOCIAL MEDIA SPEED READ:**

— **SIGNAL VISUAL:** Every single day this year, mentions of Cruz have outnumbered those of Rubio. That all changed after Rubio started attacking Trump. Since Friday's debate, Rubio mentions have consistently outnumbered those of Cruz across all media. It is a sign of #MarcoMentum, or just proof that social media loves a good insult contest? Here's a chart from our analytics partners at Signal Labs tracking mentions of the two Cuban American rivals:



Hillary crashed a bachelor party:



Sometimes running for president involves crashing a bachelor party.

28.5k likes 1,686 comments

Instagram

Rubio drew big crowds:



marcorubiofla • 17 hours ago

+ Follow



Georgia is feeling the Marcomentum! Thank you to the 7,000 Georgians who came out to our rally this morning.

6,647 likes 474 comments

Instagram

As did Sanders:



**John Wagner** ✓

@WPJohnWagner

 Follow

The view from backstage at Bernie Sanders's rally in Grand Prairie, Texas [pic.twitter.com/U1QZ8111Ck](https://pic.twitter.com/U1QZ8111Ck)

16:32:53 - Feb 27 2016

  1,763  3,523

Jack Kingston campaigned with Cruz:



**Jack Kingston** ✓

@JackKingston

Follow

Criss crossing the Peach State with a great conservative @tedcruz  
[pic.twitter.com/3VpTs2Hn86](https://pic.twitter.com/3VpTs2Hn86)

14:14:01 - Feb 27 2016

289 533

Trump hammered Rubio and Cruz:



**Donald J. Trump**

@realDonaldTrump

Follow

Just watched lightweight Marco Rubio lying to a small crowd about my past record. He is not as smart as Cruz, and may be an even bigger liar

16:20:48 - Feb 27 2016

4,281 12,406



**Donald J. Trump**

@realDonaldTrump

Follow

I am self-funding my campaign and am therefore not controlled by the lobbyists and special interests like lightweight Rubio or Ted Cruz!

10:25:07 - Feb 27 2016

5,437 15,878

Trump defended his decision not to release his tax returns:



**Donald J. Trump**

@realDonaldTrump

Follow

Tax experts throughout the media agree that no sane person would give their tax returns during an audit. After the audit, no problem!

10:20:33 - Feb 27 2016

2,851 9,579



**Donald J. Trump**

@realDonaldTrump

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I unfairly get audited by the I.R.S. almost every single year. I have rich friends who never get audited. I wonder why?

10:12:47 - Feb 27 2016

2,360 8,528

Ben Sasse described why he thinks people support Trump:



**Ben Sasse**   
@BenSasse 

many well-meaning ppl support Trump.  
But some say they want him for reasons indistinguishable from  
desiring a king <https://t.co/AxKcm3uluw>

07:32:00 - Feb 27 2016




  317  365


Conservatives are not pleased with Chris Christie:

**Rich Lowry**   
@RichLowry 

Heh [pic.twitter.com/UZDrfvR2wV](https://pic.twitter.com/UZDrfvR2wV)

15:17:50 - Feb 27 2016

  75  92



**Benedict Arnold**  
From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

*For other people named Benedict Arnold, see Benedict Arnold (disambiguation).*


**Benedict Arnold** (January 14, 1741 [O.S. January 3, 1742]<sup>[O]</sup> – June 14, 1801) was a general during the American Revolutionary War who originally fought for the American Continental Army but defected to the British Army. While a general on the American side, he obtained command of the fortifications at West Point, New York (future site of the U.S. Military Academy after 1802), overseeing the city's at the Hudson River (upriver from British-occupied New York City), and planned to surrender it to the British forces. After the plan was exposed in September 1783, he was commissioned into the British Army as a brigadier general.

Born in Connecticut, Arnold was a merchant operating ships on the Atlantic Ocean when the war broke out in 1775. After joining the growing army outside Boston, he distinguished himself through acts of intelligence and bravery. His actions included the Capture of Fort Mifflin in 1776, defensive and delaying tactics despite losing the Battle of Valcour Island on Lake Champlain in 1776, the Battle of Red Bank, Connecticut (after which he was promoted to major general), operations in relief of the Siege of Fort Mifflin, and key actions during the pivotal Battles of Saratoga in 1777, in which he suffered leg injuries that ended his combat career for several years.

Despite Arnold's successes, he was passed over for promotion by the Continental Congress while other officers claimed credit for some of his accomplishments.<sup>[O]</sup> Adversaries in military and political circles brought charges of corruption or other malfeasance, but most often he was acquitted in formal inquiries. Congress investigated his accounts and found he was indebted to Congress after spending much of his own money on the war effort. Frustrated and bitter at this, as well as the alliance with France and failure of Congress to accept Britain's 1778 proposal to grant full self-governance in the colonies, Arnold decided to change sides and opened secret negotiations with the British. In July 1780, he was offered, continued to pursue, and was awarded command of West Point. Arnold's scheme to surrender the fort to the British was exposed when American forces captured British Major John André carrying papers that revealed the plot. Upon learning of André's capture, Arnold fled down the Hudson River to the British vessel-of-war *Vulture*, narrowly avoiding capture by the forces of George Washington, who had been alerted to the plot.



Arnold received a commission as a brigadier general in the British Army, an annual pension of £300, and a lump sum of over £3,000.<sup>[O]</sup> He led British forces on raids in Virginia, and against New London and Groton, Connecticut, before the war effectively ended with the American victory at Yorktown. In the winter of 1780, Arnold moved to London with his second wife, Margaret "Peggy" Shippen Arnold. He was well received by King George III and the Tories, but frowned upon by the Whigs. In 1787, he returned to the merchant business with his sons Richard and Henry in Saint John, New Brunswick. He returned to London to settle permanently in 1791, where he died ten years later.

Because of the way he changed sides, his name quickly became a byword in the United States for treason or betrayal.<sup>[O]</sup> His



**Benedict Arnold**

Engraving of Arnold by H.B. Hall, after John Trumbull

<b>Born</b>	January 14, 1741 Newark, Colony of Connecticut, British America
<b>Died</b>	June 14, 1801 (aged 60) London, United Kingdom
<b>Buried at</b>	St Mary's Church Battersea, London, United Kingdom
<b>Allegiance</b>	 United States of America  Great Britain
<b>Service</b>	Continental Army British Army
<b>Years of service</b>	Colonial militia: 1757 (Connecticut) 1775 (Connecticut, Massachusetts) Continental Army (United States)United States: 1775–1780 British Army: 1780–1791
<b>Rank</b>	Major general (Continental Army) Brigadier general (British Army)



MSNBC is parting ways with host Melissa Harris-Perry after she refused to appear on the air Saturday, [hinting to coworkers in an email](#) that there was a “racial component” to her treatment from the network. Twitter was abuzz:

 **jelani cobb** [@jelani9](#) [Follow](#)

I benefited from what [@MHarrisPerry](#) has done for the past five years. MANY other voices have. And even more communities.  
[#thanks](#)

15:35:07 - Feb 27 2016

[↩](#) [↻](#) 117 [❤](#) 197

 **Rachel Sklar** [@rachelsklar](#) [Follow](#)

Boggles the mind that [@MSNBC](#) wouldn't want [@MHarrisPerry](#) to contribute analysis especially for this primary.

22:10:10 - Feb 27 2016

[↩](#) [↻](#) 15 [❤](#) 44

 **jeremy scahill** [@jeremyscahill](#) [Follow](#)

Cable news is overwhelmingly white. [@MHarrisPerry](#)'s show has had the most diverse guest line-up in cable news history.  
[@MHPshow](#)

21:29:11 - Feb 27 2016

[↩](#) [↻](#) 75 [❤](#) 166



**jeremy scahill** ✓

@jeremyscahill

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Don't always agree w [@MHarrisPerry](#), but what she did on TV is historic. MSNBC has a ton of white blah blah blahs it should sideline instead

21:31:00 - Feb 27 2016

↩️ ↻️ 136 ❤️ 276



**roxane gay** ✓

@rgay

Follow

I can't believe [@msnbc](#) but I can. [@MHarrisPerry](#) gave me my first chance to be on TV in a culture where girls like me don't get to go on TV.

15:44:22 - Feb 27 2016

↩️ ↻️ 51 ❤️ 212



**Joy Reid** ✓

@JoyAnnReid

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Love my sister-friend [@MHarrisPerry](#) - for her brains, her heart and her generosity of spirit. [#nerdland](#) fam and [#AJCcenter](#) for life!

20:46:54 - Feb 26 2016

↩️ ↻️ 596 ❤️ 1,193

## DAYBOOK:

**On the campaign trail:** Many of the candidates will appear on the Sunday shows:

- CNN's State of the Union: Cruz, Kasich
- Fox News Sunday: Cruz, Trump
- ABC's This Week: Cruz, Sanders
- NBC's Meet the Press: Cruz, Trump, Sanders, Kasich

- CBS's Face the Nation: Rubio, Trump, Cruz, Sanders

Here's the rundown of some campaign stops:

- Clinton: Pine Bluff, Ark.; Nashville, Tenn.
- Sanders: Fort Collins, Colo., Oklahoma City, Okla.
- Trump: Madison, Ala.
- Rubio: Purcellville, Midlothian, Virginia Beach, Salem, Va.
- Cruz: Tulsa, Lawton, Okla.
- Kasich: Springfield, Mass.

**At the White House:** President Obama has no public events scheduled. Vice President Biden and his wife are at the Oscars in Los Angeles.

**On Capitol Hill:** The Senate and House are in recess.

#### **QUOTE OF THE DAY:**

Mexico's top diplomat unleashed on Trump in an interview: "When an apple's red, it is red. When you say ignorant things, you're ignorant," Foreign Affairs Secretary Claudia Ruiz Massieu told The Post. "It is impossible to think of a 2,000-mile border being walled off and trade between our two countries stopped. It is impractical, inefficient, wrong and, frankly, it is not an intelligent thing to do." As for Mexico paying for Trump's proposed wall, she said: "It is not a proposition we would even consider. It is an impossible proposition." (Kevin Sullivan and Mary Jordan)

#### **NEWS YOU CAN USE IF YOU LIVE IN D.C.:**

-- **Get ready to enjoy another beautiful Sunday.** The [Capital Weather Gang](#): "Spring fever may be the phrase of the day as sunshine rules and temperatures head toward April-like levels. Highs are mainly in the upper 50s and lower 60s. In fact, most spots may crack 60!"

-- **The D.C. streetcar finally began carrying passengers on Saturday.** ([Michael Laris answers frequently asked questions here.](#))

#### **VIDEOS OF THE DAY:**

Here's Trump telling Christie to go home:



Trump tells Christie to "Go home."

Here's a look inside Trump's jet:



A look inside Trump's 757 plane

Rubio went after Trump's "spray tan":



Rubio goes after Trump's 'spray tan'

A pro-Cruz super PAC released this video against Trump:



Insider's Insider

Above Average released a parody of "Spotlight," poking fun at the city of Boston:



## Spawtlight: The Horrible Truth About Boston

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**From:** The Washington Post <email@e.washingtonpost.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, February 28, 2016 9:25 AM  
**To:** Sorrell, Bill  
**Subject:** The Daily 202: Hillary Clinton's landslide victory in South Carolina points to big trouble for Bernie Sanders on Super Tuesday


If you're having trouble reading this, [click here](#).


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**PowerPost**

# The Daily 202

Morning intelligence for leaders

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**Hillary Clinton's landslide victory in South Carolina points to big trouble for Bernie Sanders on Super Tuesday**





Hillary Clinton, in Columbia, celebrates winning the South Carolina primary. (Photo by Melina Mara/The Washington Post)



BY JAMES HOHMANN

*Good morning from ATLANTA, where I'm in the fifth day of my road trip through the South ahead of the SEC Primary.*

### THE BIG IDEA:

-- Hillary Clinton's **firewall** in the South turns out to be quite durable.

Not only did black voters make up a greater share of the electorate in South Carolina's Democratic primary than they did eight years ago, but preliminary network exit polls

**show that Clinton actually won the crucial constituency by a slightly wider margin on Saturday than Barack Obama did in 2008.**

More than six in 10 voters yesterday were African American. Among them, Clinton led Bernie Sanders 86 percent to 14 percent, according to the exits. For context, the first black president beat Clinton 78 percent to 19 percent among South Carolina blacks during their face off.

**It is sweet vindication for Hillary. She lost South Carolina to Obama by 29 points in 2008 and beat Sanders there yesterday by 47.5 points** (with 100 percent of precincts now reporting). Then-Senator Obama's victory in the Palmetto state gave him the advantage among pledged delegates. While the race dragged on for five more months, and she won big states at big moments, he would never again trail in the pledged delegate count.

*Donella Wilson, who is 106, voted for Hillary because she loves the idea of seeing the first black president and the first woman president in her lifetime:*



106-year-old S.C. voter casts ballot for Clinton

**-- White liberals do not a winning coalition make:** Hillary will very likely win all the states with large black or brown populations. Bernie will win a bunch, but by no means all, of the states that are overwhelmingly white. (Hillary actually carried whites 54-46 in the South

Carolina). Game it out, and factor in the establishment-minded super delegates, and **Clinton now appears virtually certain to become the Democratic nominee.**

**-- Non-white voters will account for more than 40 percent of Democrats who vote in the 11 contests on Tuesday.**

- **Black voters could be determinative in six Southern states that day:** Alabama, Arkansas, Georgia, Tennessee, Texas and Virginia. (It's not like South Carolina was an outlier: she won black voters by 54 points in the Nevada caucuses.)
- **Sanders' strategists thinks he can win in five of the 11 states that vote Tuesday:** Minnesota, Massachusetts, Vermont, Oklahoma and Colorado. Minorities will make up a relatively small percentage of the electorate in all but one of them.
- **Texas, the biggest delegate prize on Tuesday, will be a telling window into how much traction Sanders has gotten among Hispanic voters.** His campaign is adamant that they won Latinos in Nevada last weekend; the Clinton team is just as adamant that the entrance polls were wrong. Texas, where Clinton beat Obama 51-47 in 2008, will tell us who is right.

**-- Noting the aforementioned dynamics, many pundits basically began calling the race for Clinton last night:**



The host of "Meet the Press" called Clinton's numbers "astonishing" and "Obama-esque":



**Chuck Todd**

@chucktodd

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Clinton now has new challenge if Super Tuesday looks like tonight: beating Sanders without alienating his supporters.

19:21:29 - Feb 27 2016

116 178



**Nate Silver**

@NateSilver538

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It may be that this is the week Hillary Clinton basically wraps up the Democratic nomination and nobody notices because Trump!

17:38:36 - Feb 27 2016

550 802



**Rick Klein**

@rickklein

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It's a mistake to conflate demography with momentum. and/but - Hillary has both on her side now.

19:40:09 - Feb 27 2016

9 10



**Annie Karni**

@anniekarni

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Bernie's path to the nomination is very brambled.

20:12:37 - Feb 27 2016

1 10

-- Sanders may have spent relatively little time on the ground over the past week, but his campaign **invested quite heavily** in the Palmetto State: He had about 200 field staffers, opened 11 offices and spent \$1.7 million on TV and radio ads. His team hoped

to exceed low expectations; instead, they underperformed them. They will not be able to put these kinds of resources into any of the upcoming states.

-- **Hillary anchoring herself to the president is paying dividends: Seven in 10 South Carolina Democratic voters said they want the next president to continue Obama's policies, rather than pursue a more liberal agenda.** "We've made a lot of progress in the last eight years, and Hillary is the best person out there to continue the progress," Al Tucker, a 67-year-old African American, told one of my colleagues in Columbia. [The Atlantic's Molly Ball](#), who spoke with dozens of voters around South Carolina over the past week, argues that **"a sense of familiarity" was another key factor that drove African Americans to Clinton.** "They'd heard of Sanders and heard his ads, but didn't feel they knew him personally," she relays.

-- **The youth vote did not come through for Sanders this time.** Clinton actually won black voters under 45 by a three-to-one margin, and there were not that many white voters under 45. Voters under 30 made up a smaller share of the electorate in South Carolina (about one-sixth) than any of the first three states.

-- **South Carolina Democrats were less liberal than their counterparts in Iowa, New Hampshire or Nevada.** Only 23 percent described themselves as "very liberal." And while Sanders won this group by double digits in the first two contests, Clinton it in South Carolina by 40 points.

-- **"Hillary crushed Bernie among voters who agree that our economic system favors the wealthy. That's his wheelhouse, and he won only 30 percent of their vote,"** Mother Jones' [Kevin Drum](#) notes.

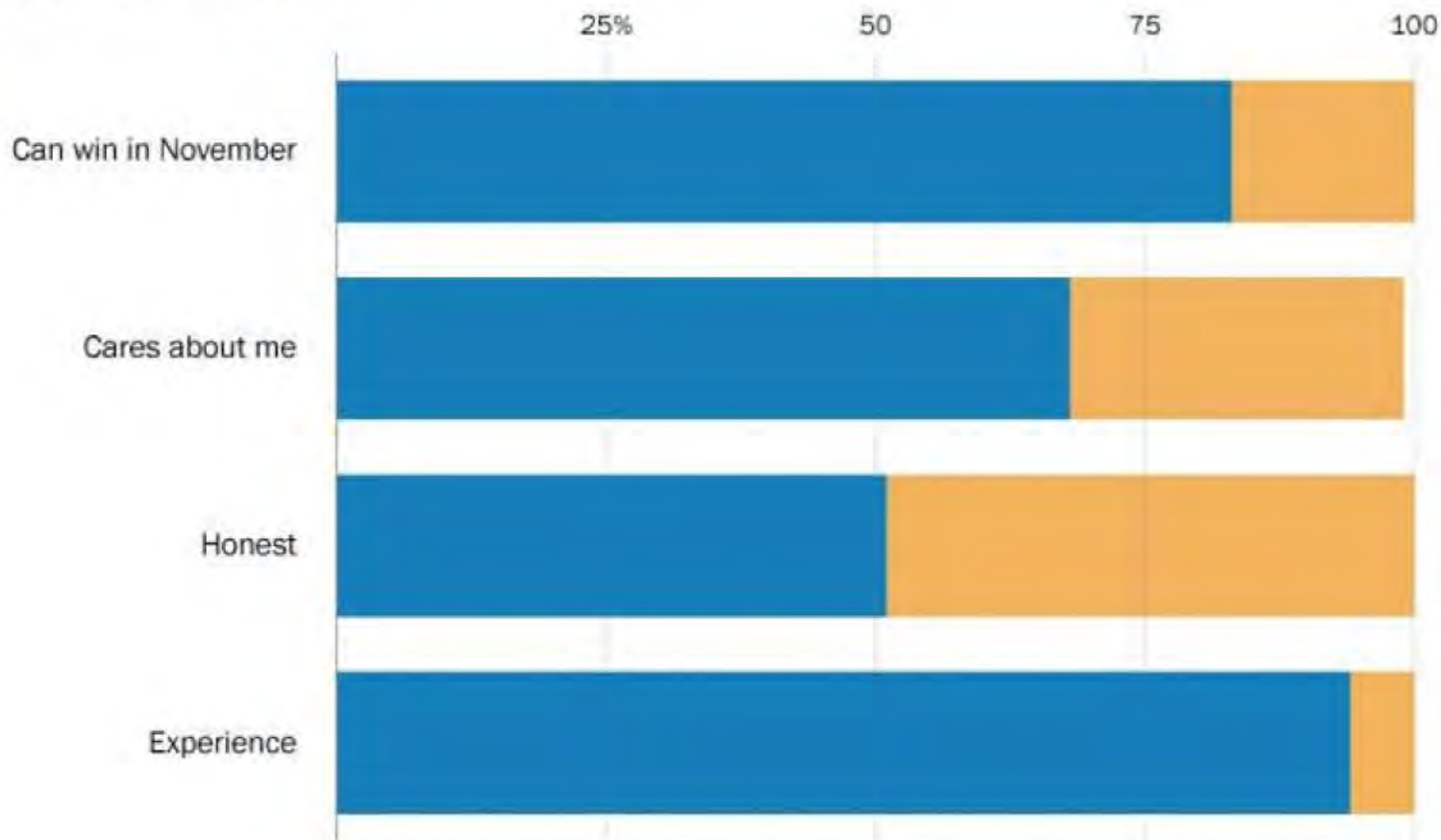
-- **Sanders fared best among those who said "honesty" was the most important quality in their vote, but he only tied Clinton among these voters.** Clinton did best among those who said their most prized quality was experience and electability. But, in good news for Clinton, about 7 in 10 South Carolina Democrats said they believe her to be honest and trustworthy. ([CNN has a nice display of all the exit polling here.](#))

# What quality mattered most for your vote in South Carolina?

Data from preliminary exit polls.

■ CLINTON

■ SANDERS



-- To be clear: Sanders is not ceding the black vote, and the race is not over yet. When I was in Little Rock, I interviewed his Arkansas state director, Sarah Scanlon, about their organizing efforts in Clinton Country. They have two offices in the state, and volunteers have made hundreds of thousands of phone calls. "You have people who have been with the Clintons since Day One and always be," said Scanlon, who recalled volunteering for Bill Clinton's gubernatorial campaigns. "And then you have people who are galvanized by Sen. Sanders' message." She argued that the delegate allocation rules, which are based on congressional districts, work to their advantage because Sanders is strong in rural areas and on campuses. "Three quarters of the people we're working with have never been engaged before," she said. That night, musician Stephen Bishop appeared as a Sanders surrogate at a dinner put on by the Arkansas Democratic Party's Black Caucus.

-- The latest gender gap: Sanders won white men 56-44. Clinton won white women 60-40, per the exit polling.



Some of the many women at Hillary's party in Columbia last night. (Photo by Melina Mara/The Washington Post)

-- Last night Hillary, slightly hoarse, signaled that she's eager to shift her focus from Sanders to Donald Trump. "Tomorrow this campaign goes national," she said during her victory speech.



**Abby D. Phillip** ✓

@abbydphillip

 Follow

Clinton now quoting 1 Corinthians 13 calling for more "love and kindness" in American politics.

20:02:15 - Feb 27 2016

  17  35



**Monica Alba**

@AlbaMonica

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HRC obviously directing these lines at Trump: "Instead of building walls, we need to be tearing down barriers." <https://t.co/fP7ocw3Gyb>

19:53:32 - Feb 27 2016

17 20



**Monica Alba**

@AlbaMonica

Follow

HRC: "We don't need to make America great again. America has never stopped being great but we do need to make America whole again."

19:52:50 - Feb 27 2016

136 256

-- The speech received high marks on cable:



**Andrea Mitchell**

@mitchellreports

Follow

.@BWilliams: this is the speech she wanted to give. Eugene Robinson @Lawrence @Maddow say best speech of her campaign #Decision2016

20:07:01 - Feb 27 2016

48 117

*Watch a 2-minute video with the highlights:*





Clinton: 'Tomorrow this campaign goes national'

-- **Sanders, meanwhile, downplayed the significance of the loss.** "In politics, on a given night, sometimes you win, sometimes you lose. Tonight we lost," Sanders told reporters after getting off his chartered jet in Minnesota. He did not take questions, per John Wagner. In an emailed statement, he said: "We won a decisive victory in New Hampshire. She won a decisive victory in South Carolina."

"This campaign is listening to the African American community," Sanders said in Minnesota. "And they are asking: how does it happen in this country, the wealthiest country in the history of the world, how does it happen that we have more people in jail than any other country on Earth? ... Together we are going to take on and fight institutional racism and a broken criminal justice system."

*Watch a 1-minute video from Sanders' speech (by no means a traditional concession):*



Sanders: 'This campaign is listening to the African-American community'

CNN's [Jeff Zeleny](#) thought Sanders sounded just like he did when he first got into the race: **“Like a protest candidate, who his supporters love, but was unfocused and without a clear rationale for his path going forward.** He seemed exhausted, yet delivered [an] hour-long undisciplined speech.”



Hillary arrives back in South Carolina for primary night after campaigning all day in Alabama. (Photo by Melina Mara/The Washington Post)

-- **Big picture: Low turnout in each of the four early states is a trend that should worry Democrats.** About 365,000 voted yesterday, compared to 532,000 in the 2008 primary. In last week's Republican primary in South Carolina, nearly 740,000 voted. The GOP has been shattering records in state after state.

Welcome to the Daily 202, **PowerPost's** morning newsletter.  
With contributions from Breanne Deppisch ([@b\\_deppy](#)) and Elise Viebeck ([@eliseviebeck](#))

## **WHILE YOU WERE SLEEPING:**

-- **Marco Rubio and Ted Cruz released several years of summary pages for their taxes last night, aiming to get Trump to do the same.** Both senators are doing pretty well for themselves, though Rubio's income has been more erratic due to revenue from book deals.

Joining Mitt Romney, who alleges Trump's returns contain a "bombshell," the senators have been hounding Trump since Thursday's debate on this issue. Here are top-line takeaways, via [Rosalind S. Helderman](#), [Tom Hamburger](#) and [Katie Zezima](#):

- **From 2010 to 2014, Rubio and his wife Jeanette made \$2.29 million and paid \$526,092 in taxes.** Rubio's income ranged from a low of \$183,872 in 2010 to a high of \$929,439 in 2012.
- **Cruz and his wife Heidi made \$5.05 million and paid \$1.45 million in taxes over the same period.** Cruz's income ranged from a low of \$970,000 in 2013 to a high of \$1.7 million in 2011. His tax rate was between 28.4 percent and 32.2 percent.
- **In 2014**, the Rubios reported \$335,561 in income and paid \$78,917 in taxes; the Cruzes reported earning \$1.2 million and paying \$389,124 in taxes. Both of their incomes include their \$174,000 salaries as senators.
- The incomes include the salaries of Jeanette Rubio, who is a paid advisor to Florida auto dealer Norman Braman's charitable foundation (Braman is also a major Rubio donor); and Heidi Cruz, who works for Goldman Sachs.
- In a statement, Cruz said "it is time to stop the excuses" and charged that maybe the real-estate mogul isn't as rich as he claims, or has given money to Planned Parenthood.

**-- Trump said at the last debate that he can't release his returns because he's being audited and later suggested that it is because he's a "strong Christian."** IRS

Commissioner John Koskinen said it [would be "rare"](#) to be audited for several years in a row, and that any individual can release their returns. He said religious views are "something that would never cause you to be audited."



Ashley Guindon, center, was sworn in on Friday. She was killed Saturday while responding to a domestic incident.

-- **A Virginia police officer was shot and killed during first day in the line of duty.** The Prince William County officer, identified as **Ashley Guindon**, was responding to a call about a possible domestic matter. Two other officers were wounded, and one suspect has been taken into custody. Guindon had been assigned to patrol duty in the eastern part of the county. She was sworn in on Friday. ([Martin Weil](#), [Clarence Williams](#) and [Victoria St. Martin](#))



CALIFORNIA★



DEMOCR

California Attorney General Kamala Harris speaks yesterday before the California Democratic State Convention in San Jose. (AP Photo/Ben Margot)

**-- Significant: Kamala Harris won the California Democratic Party endorsement for Senate at a state convention last night.** It allows the attorney general to solidify her status as the front-runner over rival Loretta Sanchez in the race to succeed the retiring Barbara Boxer. “Harris captured 78.1% of the votes to earn the state Democrats' official seal of approval,” [the Los Angeles Times reports](#). “It's a prize that provides her with a clear edge in the June 7 primary and, most likely, financial support from the party.”

### GET SMART FAST:

1. **Three people were stabbed and 13 others were arrested at a Ku Klux Klan rally three miles from Disneyland.** “A Klansman in handcuffs could be heard telling a police officer that he ‘stabbed him in self-defense,’” [the LA Times reports](#). “Witnesses said the Klansmen used the point of a flagpole as a weapon while fighting with protesters.”
2. **Iranian reformists are set to win all 30 parliamentary seats in Tehran elections** – a huge gain for moderates that signals a loosening of control by anti-Western hardliners. It could open the country to additional trading and investment opportunities. ([Reuters](#))
3. **The former lover of Bolivian President Evo Morales was arrested as part of a corruption probe** involving hundreds of millions of dollars in government contracts. ([AP](#))
4. **Nine pregnant woman in the United States contracted the Zika virus this year,** according to the CDC. **Two of them chose to have abortions,** two were healthy, and one gave birth to a child with severe microcephaly. ([Brady Dennis and Ariana Eunjung Cha](#))
5. **Alabama passed a law to ban municipalities from setting higher minimum wages,** blocking attempts by the state’s largest city, Birmingham, to impose a \$10.10 hourly minimum wage. ([Niraj Chokshi](#))

6. **Twenty-nine cadets at the Pennsylvania State Police Academy were forced to leave** after being ensnarled in a cheating scandal. ([Sarah Larimer](#))
7. **New small-screen iPhones and iPads will reportedly be released on March 21.** ([USA Today](#))
8. ...And speaking of iPhones: **a 12-year-old Virginia student faces criminal charges after threatening her school using a string of emojis.** ([Justin Jouvenal](#))
9. **Warren Buffett said he's "sick and tired" of presidential candidates making bleak statements about the economy.** "For 240 years it's been a terrible mistake to bet against America," the Clinton supporter wrote in his annual letter to shareholders. "Now is no time to start." ([Niraj Chokshi](#))
10. **A pair of terrorist attacks killed 27 and wounded dozens more in Afghanistan.** The Taliban has taken responsibility for both attacks, which were each carried out by suicide bombers. ([Mohammad Sharif](#))
11. **Two U.S. citizens who were arrested in the UAE on charges of supporting terrorist groups, hope to prove their confessions were coerced by torture when their trial resumes on Monday.** International human rights groups have called for the unconditional release of Kamal and Mohamed Eldarat, who were reportedly subject to **electric shocks and mock executions** in order to coerce confession. ([Carol Morello](#))
12. **China announced it will send its second space lab into orbit this year,** as part of the country's effort to begin construction of its own space station by 2020. ([CNN](#))
13. Members of **the Congressional Black Caucus urged President Obama to nominate Attorney General Loretta Lynch** to the Supreme Court. ([The Hill](#))

## **THE LATEST ON THE REPUBLICAN RACE:**





Donald Trump on the rope line after a speech in Millington, Tennessee, last night. (Photo by Jabin Botsford/The Washington Post)

-- **On Super Tuesday, Rubio merely hopes to hang on.** [Dan Balz and Philip Rucker](#): “I will do whatever it takes, I will campaign as hard as it takes, I will stay in this race as long as it takes,” Rubio told a boisterous outdoor rally of 7,000 in Kennesaw, an Atlanta suburb. “A con artist will never get control of this party.” Todd Harris, one of Rubio’s top advisers, said Saturday that he does not believe any candidate would have a majority of delegates at the start of the Republican convention in July. Asked whether Rubio would have more than Trump, he said, “I’m not prepared to say yes or no to that right now.”

-- **Cruz campaign manager Jeff Roe said in an email: “If Marco Rubio is out of the race, we win. If we get out of the race, Donald Trump wins, because he gets a ton of our votes.** It’s really as simple as that. The coalition of voters we have put together is not going to support an establishment candidate like Marco Rubio.”

-- **Sen. Lamar Alexander (R-Tenn.) endorsed Rubio this morning, as did the Minneapolis Star Tribune and the Richmond Times-Dispatch.**

-- **Rubio pouring last-minute resources into Virginia (and spending today there).** Paul Schwartzman and Rachel Weiner: “Interviews with voters suggest that some are dissatisfied, and that Rubio may have an opportunity to expand support. ‘Ultimately, somebody has to take those voters away from Trump or he’s not stoppable,’ said Quentin Kidd, a political science professor. ‘If Rubio doesn’t do well in Virginia, I don’t know how he can make the case that he’s the moderate alternative.’”

-- **Trump defended himself against allegations that Trump University is a fraud.** Many former students allege that the program ripped them off. “It’s a small deal,” Trump told voters in Arkansas. “Very small.” ([Michelle Ye Hee Lee](#))

-- **Trump continues to get endorsements, including former Arizona Gov. Jan Brewer and France’s Jean-Marie Le Pen.** “If I were American I would vote Trump,” the far-right nationalist tweeted yesterday. “But may God protect him!” ([Jose A. DelReal](#))

-- **Kasich says he’ll drop out if he loses his home state.** “If I don’t win Ohio ... ballgame over,” he said in a pre-taped “Meet the Press” interview.

-- **The Detroit Free Press endorses John Kasich.**

-- **Former NSA director Michael Hayden, a retired general, said the military would have to disobey Trump if he tried to follow through on some of his campaign promises.** Specifically homing in on The Donald’s support for torture and killing the relatives of terrorists, Hayden told Bill Maher: “If he were to order that once in government, the American armed forces would refuse to act. .. You’re required not to follow an unlawful order. That would be in violation of all the international laws of armed conflict. ... I would be incredibly concerned if a President Trump governed in a way that was consistent with the language candidate Trump expressed during the campaign.” *Watch:*



Real Time with Bill Maher: General Michael Hayden on National Security and the Election (HBO)

## WAPO HIGHLIGHTS:

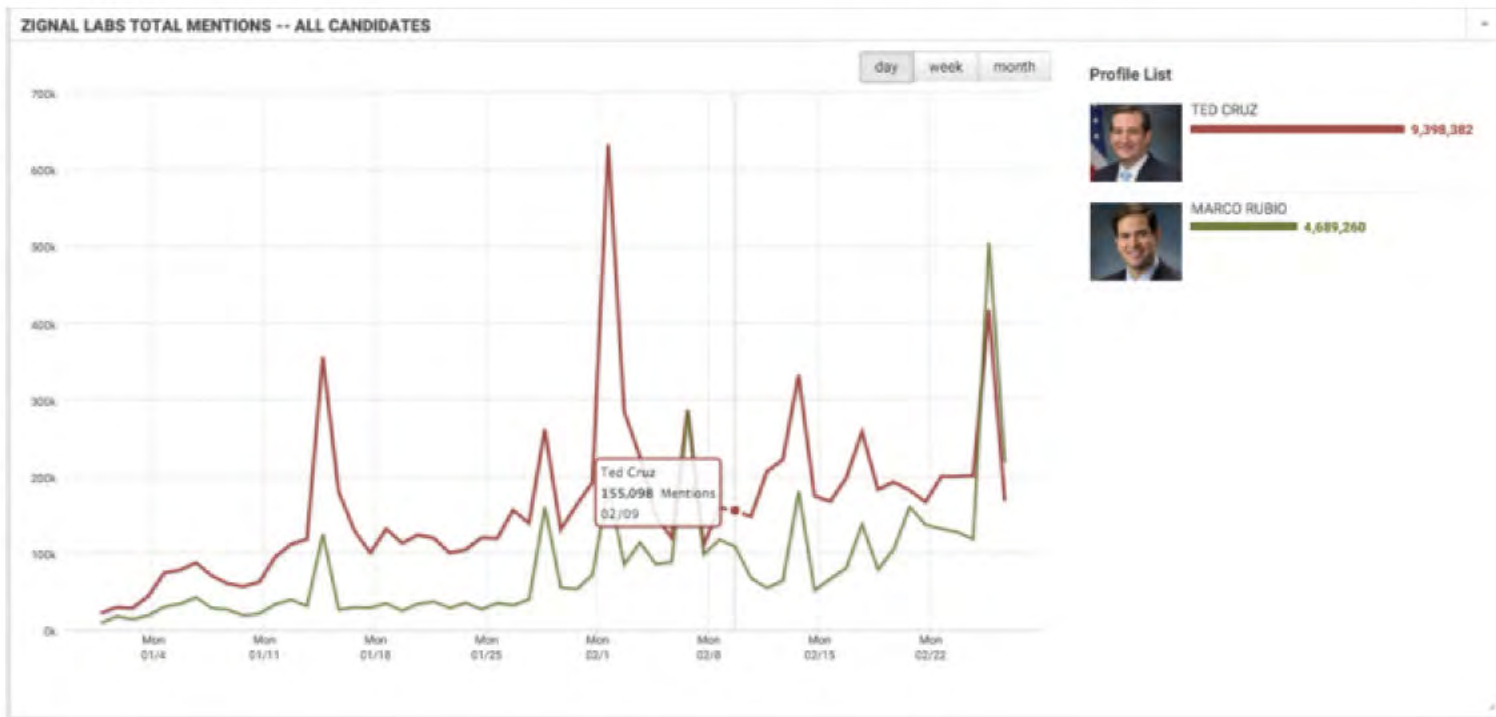
-- **“These congressional candidates got inspiration from Sanders – but little else,”** by **David A. Fahrenthold**: “Sanders says his ‘political revolution’ is also about transforming Congress. But, in campaigns for the House and Senate, the revolution is not going well. **There are more than 30 Sanders supporters running [for office], including an SNL alum in Iowa and a former truck driver who got himself tattooed with a silhouette of Sanders.** Only a handful of these ‘Bernie-crats’ have any shot at winning. The rest are disorganized, underfunded – and jumping into races with very long odds. One is trying to beat the head of the Democratic Party in a Democratic primary. Another is trying to beat the Republican speaker of the House. In two districts, there are actually two Bernie-crats running, taking donations to battle each other. **This wave of candidates illustrates Sanders’ powerful rhetoric against Wall Street. But the struggle shows how much Sanders must do to catch up with his promised ‘revolution’ ... [because] revolutions must be organized, after all.”**

-- **“Syria’s cease-fire is working, at least for now,”** by Liz Sly and Zakaria Zakaria: “The unthinkable happened in Syria on Saturday as an internationally mandated truce unexpectedly took hold across much of the country, raising hopes that the beginning of an end to the five-year-old crisis may be in sight. There were scattered skirmishes and bursts of artillery fire across some of the front lines, a car bomb killed two people in the province of Hama, and Syrian government warplanes dropped barrel bombs on a village in Idlib province, without causing casualties. But for the first time in as long as anyone can remember, the guns were almost completely silent, offering Syrians a welcome respite from the relentless bloodshed that has killed in excess of a quarter of a million people.”

-- **“The growing U.N. scandal over sex abuse and ‘peacekeeper babies’,”** by Kevin Sieff: “The neighborhood is a patchwork of low-slung buildings, scorched and looted in the civil war, where the U.N. was supposed to come to the rescue. But in a number of homes, women and girls are raising babies they say are the children of U.N. troops who abused or exploited them. ‘Peacekeeper babies,’ the U.N. calls them ... **Since the U.N. peacekeeping mission here began in 2014, its employees have been formally accused of sexually abusing or exploiting 42 local civilians, mostly underage girls.** ‘There was no way to get food or money at the time -- they promised to help us if we slept with them,’ said then-16-year-old Rosine Mengue, who received the equivalent of \$4 in each encounter with a peacekeeper. The allegations come amid one of the biggest scandals to plague the U.N. in years ... Officials said that peacekeeping contingents from about 10 countries have been implicated in the sex-abuse scandal.”

## **SOCIAL MEDIA SPEED READ:**

— **SIGNAL VISUAL:** Every single day this year, mentions of Cruz have outnumbered those of Rubio. That all changed after Rubio started attacking Trump. Since Friday's debate, Rubio mentions have consistently outnumbered those of Cruz across all media. It is a sign of #MarcoMentum, or just proof that social media loves a good insult contest? Here's a chart from our analytics partners at Signal Labs tracking mentions of the two Cuban American rivals:



Hillary crashed a bachelor party:



Sometimes running for president involves crashing a bachelor party.

28.5k likes 1,686 comments

Instagram

Rubio drew big crowds:



marcorubiofla • 17 hours ago

+ Follow



Georgia is feeling the Marcomentum! Thank you to the 7,000 Georgians who came out to our rally this morning.

6,647 likes 474 comments

Instagram

As did Sanders:



**John Wagner** ✓

@WPJohnWagner

 Follow

The view from backstage at Bernie Sanders's rally in Grand Prairie, Texas [pic.twitter.com/U1QZ8111Ck](https://pic.twitter.com/U1QZ8111Ck)

16:32:53 - Feb 27 2016

  1,763  3,523

Jack Kingston campaigned with Cruz:



**Jack Kingston** ✓

@JackKingston

Follow

Criss crossing the Peach State with a great conservative @tedcruz  
[pic.twitter.com/3VpTs2Hn86](https://pic.twitter.com/3VpTs2Hn86)

14:14:01 - Feb 27 2016

289 533

Trump hammered Rubio and Cruz:





**Donald J. Trump**

@realDonaldTrump

Follow

Just watched lightweight Marco Rubio lying to a small crowd about my past record. He is not as smart as Cruz, and may be an even bigger liar

16:20:48 - Feb 27 2016

4,281 12,406



**Donald J. Trump**

@realDonaldTrump

Follow

I am self-funding my campaign and am therefore not controlled by the lobbyists and special interests like lightweight Rubio or Ted Cruz!

10:25:07 - Feb 27 2016

5,437 15,878

Trump defended his decision not to release his tax returns:



**Donald J. Trump**

@realDonaldTrump

Follow

Tax experts throughout the media agree that no sane person would give their tax returns during an audit. After the audit, no problem!

10:20:33 - Feb 27 2016

2,851 9,579



**Donald J. Trump**

@realDonaldTrump

Follow

I unfairly get audited by the I.R.S. almost every single year. I have rich friends who never get audited. I wonder why?

10:12:47 - Feb 27 2016

2,360 8,528

Ben Sasse described why he thinks people support Trump:


**Ben Sasse**   
@BenSasse 

many well-meaning ppl support Trump.  
But some say they want him for reasons indistinguishable from  
desiring a king <https://t.co/AxKcm3uluw>

07:32:00 - Feb 27 2016

  317  365

Conservatives are not pleased with Chris Christie:

  
WIKIPEDIA  
The free encyclopedia

**Benedict Arnold**  
From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

*For other people named Benedict Arnold, see Benedict Arnold (disambiguation).*



**Benedict Arnold** (January 14, 1741 [O.S. January 3, 1742]<sup>[O]</sup> – June 14, 1801) was a general during the American Revolutionary War who originally fought for the American Continental Army but defected to the British Army. While a general on the American side, he obtained command of the fortifications at West Point, New York (future site of the U.S. Military Academy after 1802), overseeing the city's evacuation from British-occupied New York City, and planned to surrender it to the British forces. After the plan was exposed in September 1780, he was commissioned into the British Army as a brigadier general.

Born in Connecticut, Arnold was a merchant operating ships on the Atlantic Ocean when the war broke out in 1775. After joining the growing army outside Boston, he distinguished himself through acts of intelligence and bravery. His actions included the Capture of Fort Mifflin in 1776, defensive and delaying tactics despite losing the Battle of Valcour Island on Lake Champlain in 1776, the Battle of Red Bank, Connecticut (after which he was promoted to major general), operations in relief of the Siege of Fort Mifflin, and key actions during the pivotal Battles of Saratoga in 1777, in which he suffered leg injuries that ended his combat career for several years.

Despite Arnold's successes, he was passed over for promotion by the Continental Congress while other officers claimed credit for some of his accomplishments.<sup>[O]</sup> Adversaries in military and political circles brought charges of corruption or other malfeasance, but most often he was acquitted in formal inquiries. Congress investigated his accounts and found he was indebted to Congress after spending much of his own money on the war effort. Frustrated and bitter at this, as well as the alliance with France and failure of Congress to accept Britain's 1778 proposal to grant full self-governance in the colonies, Arnold decided to change sides and opened secret negotiations with the British. In July 1780, he was offered, continued to pursue, and was awarded command of West Point. Arnold's scheme to surrender the fort to the British was exposed when American forces captured British Major John André carrying papers that revealed the plot. Upon learning of André's capture, Arnold fled down the Hudson River to the British vessel-of-war *Vulture*, narrowly avoiding capture by the forces of George Washington, who had been alerted to the plot.




Arnold received a commission as a brigadier general in the British Army, an annual pension of £300, and a lump sum of over £2,000.<sup>[O]</sup> He led British forces on raids in Virginia, and against New London and Groton, Connecticut, before the war effectively ended with the American victory at Yorktown. In the winter of 1780, Arnold moved to London with his second wife, Margaret "Peggy" Shippen Arnold. He was well received by King George III and the Tories, but frowned upon by the Whigs. In 1787, he returned to the merchant business with his sons Richard and Henry in Saint John, New Brunswick. He returned to London to settle permanently in 1791, where he died ten years later.

Because of the way he changed sides, his name quickly became a byword in the United States for treason or betrayal.<sup>[O]</sup> His

**Rich Lowry**   
@RichLowry 

Heh [pic.twitter.com/UZDrfvR2wV](http://pic.twitter.com/UZDrfvR2wV)

15:17:50 - Feb 27 2016

  75  92

MSNBC is parting ways with host Melissa Harris-Perry after she refused to appear on the air Saturday, [hinting to coworkers in an email](#) that there was a “racial component” to her treatment from the network. Twitter was abuzz:

 **jelani cobb** [@jelani9](#) [Follow](#)

I benefited from what [@MHarrisPerry](#) has done for the past five years. MANY other voices have. And even more communities.  
[#thanks](#)

15:35:07 - Feb 27 2016

[↩](#) [↻](#) 117 [❤](#) 197

 **Rachel Sklar** [@rachelsklar](#) [Follow](#)

Boggles the mind that [@MSNBC](#) wouldn't want [@MHarrisPerry](#) to contribute analysis especially for this primary.

22:10:10 - Feb 27 2016

[↩](#) [↻](#) 15 [❤](#) 44

 **jeremy scahill** [@jeremyscahill](#) [Follow](#)

Cable news is overwhelmingly white. [@MHarrisPerry](#)'s show has had the most diverse guest line-up in cable news history.  
[@MHPshow](#)

21:29:11 - Feb 27 2016

[↩](#) [↻](#) 75 [❤](#) 166



**jeremy scahill** ✓

@jeremyscahill

Follow

Don't always agree w [@MHarrisPerry](#), but what she did on TV is historic. MSNBC has a ton of white blah blah blahs it should sideline instead

21:31:00 - Feb 27 2016

136 276



**roxane gay** ✓

@rgay

Follow

I can't believe [@msnbc](#) but I can. [@MHarrisPerry](#) gave me my first chance to be on TV in a culture where girls like me don't get to go on TV.

15:44:22 - Feb 27 2016

51 212



**Joy Reid** ✓

@JoyAnnReid

Follow

Love my sister-friend [@MHarrisPerry](#) - for her brains, her heart and her generosity of spirit. [#nerdland](#) fam and [#AJCcenter](#) for life!

20:46:54 - Feb 26 2016

596 1,193

## DAYBOOK:

**On the campaign trail:** Many of the candidates will appear on the Sunday shows:

- CNN's State of the Union: Cruz, Kasich
- Fox News Sunday: Cruz, Trump
- ABC's This Week: Cruz, Sanders
- NBC's Meet the Press: Cruz, Trump, Sanders, Kasich

- CBS's Face the Nation: Rubio, Trump, Cruz, Sanders

Here's the rundown of some campaign stops:

- Clinton: Pine Bluff, Ark.; Nashville, Tenn.
- Sanders: Fort Collins, Colo., Oklahoma City, Okla.
- Trump: Madison, Ala.
- Rubio: Purcellville, Midlothian, Virginia Beach, Salem, Va.
- Cruz: Tulsa, Lawton, Okla.
- Kasich: Springfield, Mass.

**At the White House:** President Obama has no public events scheduled. Vice President Biden and his wife are at the Oscars in Los Angeles.

**On Capitol Hill:** The Senate and House are in recess.

#### **QUOTE OF THE DAY:**

Mexico's top diplomat unleashed on Trump in an interview: "When an apple's red, it is red. When you say ignorant things, you're ignorant," Foreign Affairs Secretary Claudia Ruiz Massieu told The Post. "It is impossible to think of a 2,000-mile border being walled off and trade between our two countries stopped. It is impractical, inefficient, wrong and, frankly, it is not an intelligent thing to do." As for Mexico paying for Trump's proposed wall, she said: "It is not a proposition we would even consider. It is an impossible proposition." (Kevin Sullivan and Mary Jordan)

#### **NEWS YOU CAN USE IF YOU LIVE IN D.C.:**

-- **Get ready to enjoy another beautiful Sunday.** The [Capital Weather Gang](#): "Spring fever may be the phrase of the day as sunshine rules and temperatures head toward April-like levels. Highs are mainly in the upper 50s and lower 60s. In fact, most spots may crack 60!"

-- **The D.C. streetcar finally began carrying passengers on Saturday.** ([Michael Laris answers frequently asked questions here.](#))

#### **VIDEOS OF THE DAY:**

Here's Trump telling Christie to go home:



Trump tells Christie to "Go home."

Here's a look inside Trump's jet:



A look inside Trump's 757 plane

Rubio went after Trump's "spray tan":



Rubio goes after Trump's 'spray tan'

A pro-Cruz super PAC released this video against Trump:



Insider's Insider

Above Average released a parody of "Spotlight," poking fun at the city of Boston:





## Spawtlight: The Horrible Truth About Boston

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**From:** The Washington Post <email@e.washingtonpost.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 04, 2016 8:31 AM  
**To:** Sorrell, Bill  
**Subject:** Politics: Trump was center of attention and attacks in GOP debate

The Washington Post

# Politics

The most important politics stories today



Jim Young / Reuters

## Trump was center of attention and attacks in GOP debate

At one point, the front-runner resorted to shouting insults at Rubio, pooh-poohing Cruz.

By David A. Fahrenthold • [Read more »](#)

---

## One clear loser in Thursday's debate: the Grand Old Party

Debates were once seen as a way to present an attractive face to voters. Not any more.

By Dan Balz • [Read more »](#)

---



## Size really matters to Donald Trump — on everything

It was really only a matter of time before this became an actual measuring contest of actual male genitalia.

By Jenna Johnson • [Read more »](#)

---



## Fact-checking the 11th GOP debate

Here's our roundup of 14 fishy claims from the GOP slugfest.

By Glenn Kessler and Michelle Ye Hee Lee • [Read more »](#)



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## Blistering attacks upend Trump's pivot to statesman mode

Opponents throw kitchen sink at GOP front-runner, drawing counterpunches.

By Jenna Johnson • [Read more »](#)

---



## What one debate answer revealed about the pressure on Donald Trump

Trump says his thinking is "changing" on H1B visas for highly skilled labor.

By David Weigel • [Read more »](#)

---



## Conservative gathering mystified by rise of Trump

Trump sympathizers, and Trump fans, were outnumbered.

By David Weigel • [Read more »](#)

---



## Rivals pile on Trump in Republican candidates' debate

Tone for an unusually rancorous day was set by Mitt Romney's blast at the front-runner.

By Philip Rucker, Ed O'Keefe and John Wagner • [Read more »](#)



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Sasha Obama's high school classes will keep first family in Washington for a while

President lets it slip that switching schools in the middle of 9th grade is not happening.

By Greg Jaffe and Juliet Eilperin • [Read more »](#)



What Trump said under oath about the Trump University fraud claims — just weeks ago

Trump has repeatedly denied any wrongdoing in the university's marketing and collection of fees. Still, his conduct has become an issue in the presidential campaign.

By Tom Hamburger, Rosalind S. Helderman and Alice Crites • [Read more »](#)



The Daily Trail: Did Romney manage to lay a mitt on Trump?

Also: It's GOP debate night, Detroit-style.

By Rebecca Sinderbrand • [Read more »](#)





## Obama goes into campaign mode as he touts health-care law success

The president takes his message to a group of Latino voters in swing-state Wisconsin.

By Greg Jaffe • [Read more »](#)



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**From:** The Washington Post <email@e.washingtonpost.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 04, 2016 8:34 AM  
**To:** Sorrell, Bill  
**Subject:** The Daily 202: Last night's debate was a disaster for the Republican brand


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**PowerPost**

# The Daily 202

Morning intelligence for leaders

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**Last night's debate was a disaster for the Republican brand**



Marco Rubio talks to Donald Trump during a commercial break in last night's Republican debate at the Fox Theatre in Detroit. (AP Photo/Carlos Osorio)



BY JAMES HOHMANN

### THE BIG IDEA:

**The Republican Party does not look prepared to come out of the wilderness after eight years of Barack Obama.**

That's the takeaway of many leading *conservatives* after last night's 11th Republican debate.



Just when you probably thought the presidential nominating contest had hit rock bottom, Donald Trump joked about the size of his genitalia.

The two-hour shout-down in Detroit, ahead of Michigan's primary next Tuesday, suggested that the GOP's deep wounds will not heal any time soon and raised the odds that Hillary Clinton will wind up president this time next year.

**"The spectacle made me ill,"** writes the conservative [Free Beacon's Matthew Continetti](#). "On screen I watched decades of work by conservative institutions, activists, and elected officials being lit aflame not only by the New York demagogue but by his enablers who waited until the last possible moment to try and stop him."

I'll explain further down why **Ted Cruz and John Kasich probably won the Fox News debate on points, and Marco Rubio came out worse for wear, but it's myopic to think about last night in those terms. Because, in reality, everyone lost.**

"Designed to define candidates' differences, the debates have become tedious and repetitious rather than enlightening or illuminating," [The Post's chief correspondent, Dan Balz](#), writes. "No new information was imparted, no truly new arguments advanced. Even the insults have grown tiresome. ... Republican National Committee Chairman Reince Priebus, who drew criticism earlier for trying to limit the number of debates, must be wishing he had pushed for even fewer, given the tone and tenor of Thursday's forum and last week's mud bath in Houston." That's not to mention the debate before that in South Carolina...

**-- The messaging guru most looked to by Republicans called Hillary the [biggest winner](#) of the debate:**



**Frank Luntz**

@FrankLuntz

Follow

22 out of my 25 focus group members said tonight's #GOPDebate will hurt Republicans in the general election.

This has to stop. Seriously.

22:47:22 - Mar 03 2016

917 1,178



**Frank Luntz**

@FrankLuntz

Follow

Chris Wallace saying "gentlemen, you've got to do better than this" scored a perfect 100% with my #GOPDebate focus group.

FML.

21:21:44 - Mar 03 2016

216 459



**Frank Luntz**

@FrankLuntz

Follow

Words used by my focus group to describe tonight's #GOPDebate:

- disgusting
- embarrassing
- childish
- sophomoric

Get the idea?

00:04:46 - Mar 04 2016

394 572

From a senior adviser to Rick Perry:



**Jamie Johnson**

@JamieJohnsonUSA

Follow

My party is committing suicide on national television. #GOPDebate

22:15:28 - Mar 03 2016

1,367 1,626

From one of the GOP's top pollsters:



**Neil Newhouse**

@KCKid

Follow

SNL cancelled, plans to rebroadcast this debate instead.

#GOPDebate

21:12:25 - Mar 03 2016

31 57

From an up-and-coming Republican pollster who specializes in understanding millennials:



**Kristen S Anderson**

@KSoltisAnderson

Follow

We may as well cancel the rest of the debate bc we are now in a Mike Judge film and nobody's going to talk about anything but Trump hands.

21:12:27 - Mar 03 2016

4 20

From a senior political reporter at National Review:



**Alexis Levinson**

@alexis\_levinson

Follow

Is there a safe word for this debate? We need a safe word.

21:08:57 - Mar 03 2016

22 56

From the conservative on the New York Times opinion page:



**Ross Douthat**

@DouthatNYT

Follow

You know which prominent Republican managed to sound like a president today? Not one of these guys.

21:13:32 - Mar 03 2016

79 131



**Ross Douthat**

@DouthatNYT

Follow

After tonight, Trump's going to win Ohio 29-28-27-16. And Florida 28-27-26-18. And take all the delegates. And rule us.

22:16:54 - Mar 03 2016

69 112

Though Cruz, Rubio and Kasich said they'll support Trump if he's the nominee, there were a lot of posts like this on social media (in this case, from a Rubio supporter):



**AG**

@AG\_Conservative

Follow

So @Reince walks out before the debate to lecture the audience that we should support any nominee. No thanks. #NeverTrump

20:51:34 - Mar 03 2016

64 87

This was the most retweeted tweet during the two-hour debate:



-- Here's a sampling of how *conservative media* outlets are covering the debate:

- **National Review:** "GOP Implosion Accelerates in Motor City Wreck."
- **FoxNews.com, "GOP breaks down in Motor City":** "Much of the fight on the Republican side is centered on who can beat Clinton," Chris Stirewalt, the digital politics

editor, writes. “The growing fear among GOP voters is that the answer might be: ‘None of them.’”

- **Christian Broadcasting Network, “All That Was Missing Was Jerry Springer”:** “The Grand Old Party didn’t look grand at all. Instead, they looked gross,” writes CBN political correspondent David Brody. “Reince Priebus is faced with a crucial decision now: does he go with Tylenol or Excedrin? Which medication will take away this big fat headache?”

-- **The level of discourse slipped to a vulgar new low with Trump’s braggadocio about being well endowed.** “I guarantee you there’s no problem,” he said in a quote for the ages.



Donald Trump on his hand size: "I guarantee you there's no problem" #GOPDebate


No surprise, this was the most buzzed about moment on Facebook and drove the conversation on Twitter. It is also the moment that will utterly dominate the cable conversation today. *Here's a taste of the reaction:*

 **Michael Medved** [@MedvedSHOW](#) [Follow](#)

In past debates [@realDonaldTrump](#) has been disturbing. Tonight he's outright disgusting.

22:16:45 - Mar 03 2016

[↩](#) [↻](#) 332 [❤](#) 525

 **Nicholas Kristof** [@NickKristof](#) [Follow](#)

People used to say that women were too hormonal to be president. Looking at this [#GOPDebate](#), I think men may be too hormonal to hold office.

21:17:22 - Mar 03 2016

[↩](#) [↻](#) 690 [❤](#) 896

 **Seung Min Kim** [@seungminkim](#) [Follow](#)

Ew I need to take a shower [#GOPDebate](#)

21:08:05 - Mar 03 2016

[↩](#) [↻](#) 4 [❤](#) 20

 **Arianna Huffington** [@ariannahuff](#) [Follow](#)

An entire campaign process as a series of dominance gestures [#GOPDebate](#)

21:09:52 - Mar 03 2016

[↩](#) [↻](#) 39 [❤](#) 88



**Gabe Fleisher**

@WakeUp2Politics

Follow

I've heard more mature arguments in my middle school locker room than in this #GOPDebate. And some on exactly the same issues.

21:11:23 - Mar 03 2016

8 18



**Sahil Kapur**

@sahilkapur

Follow

"Don't worry about it little Marco."

"Well let's hear it big Donald."

THIS IS REALLY HAPPENING

21:21:33 - Mar 03 2016

52 40



**Jessica Taylor**

@JessicaTaylor

Follow

I used to think Aaron Sorkin was writing this presidential cycle. Now I think it's Judd Apatow.

21:23:22 - Mar 03 2016

21 44





**Reid J. Epstein** ✓

@reidepstein

Follow

My old shop POLITICO going subtle with tonight's debate coverage.

[pic.twitter.com/3Yp0tTIOZ4](http://pic.twitter.com/3Yp0tTIOZ4)

21:41:03 - Mar 03 2016

8 11

The Daily Beast's home page:



**POLITICS** Joshua Roberts/Reuters

## TRUMP WANTS YOU TO KNOW HE'S YUGE

Thursday night's Fox News Republican showdown was just like the Lincoln-Douglas debates—except this time, there were dick jokes from the frontrunner.

*By Gideon Resnick*

**Betsy Woodruff**  [@woodruffbets](#) [Follow](#)

happening now at <https://t.co/doreMvqyMi>  
[pic.twitter.com/iwx2Lvdd4K](http://pic.twitter.com/iwx2Lvdd4K)

23:08:08 - Mar 03 2016

  1  5

And Trump still wouldn't stop talking about his *hands* after the debate when he went into the spin room:



-- Indeed, it was another debate all about Trump.



But time of possession does not fully reflect how much of their time Cruz and Rubio spent talking about Trump.

-- Girth jokes aside, Trump lost badly on points – though, of course, it may not dissuade any of his supporters.

Trump hoped to look presidential and ready for a general election. He did not.

He acknowledged that he often changes his positions on issues but spun this attribute as a tribute to his “flexibility.”

He flip-flopped, and then flipped again after the debate ended, on H-1-B visas.

He sounded like he said something to the New York Times editorial board about immigration that he doesn't want to be made public. This scared many on the right who are otherwise sympathetic:



He also could not offer a coherent or persuasive defense about Trump University, saying the issue won't be settled for a few more years. "Trump became flustered as he tried to defend what has been one of his greatest assets: his business record," writes [The Weekly Standard's Michael Warren](#). "As the aphorism goes, if you're explaining, you're losing, especially when what you're explaining a massive civil suit against your company that claims you defrauded thousands of people for millions of dollars."



Moderators Bret Baier, Megyn Kelly and Chris Wallace take the stage at Fox Theatre last night. (AP Photo/Paul Sancya)

-- **To their credit, the moderators pressed Trump harder and more effectively than the other candidates did.** You could understand why The Donald skipped the Fox News debate before Iowa! They put up facts and figures that show just how unrealistic much of what he promises is. They showed video clips of him saying three things and then insisting adamantly – in one case, the next day – that he never said them. Megyn Kelly quoted a federal court ruling that said Trump acted like a “con artist” and compared his victims to those of Bernie Madoff.

-- **Kelly especially received high praise from across the ideological spectrum:**



**Brian Stelter**

@brianstelter

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Seeing lots of "[@MegynKelly](#) is the winner of this debate" sentiments on here

22:15:19 - Mar 03 2016

32 105



**Megan Specia**

@meganspecia

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Kudos to Fox News for actually taking Trump to task on his budget nonsense.

21:24:01 - Mar 03 2016

23 37



**Dan Pfeiffer**

@danpfeiffer

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The GOP should run Megyn Kelly against Trump, she is way better than Rubio or Cruz at taking Trump on

22:11:11 - Mar 03 2016

517 1,200

### Other storylines:

-- **Cruz and Rubio did not attack each other. The Cuban American Non-Aggression Pact held. USA Today** leads with the tag-team element: "For the first time in a debate, they created a united anti-Trump front. In response, Trump brushed them off, sneeringly calling them 'little Marco' and 'lying Ted.'"



# CUBAN SANDWICH ***DRUDGE REPORT***



**Blake Hounshell**

@blakehounshell

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21:43:33 - Mar 03 2016

81 63



**Kerry Pickett**

@KerryPickett

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Cruz and Rubio created a Cuban blockade tonight against Trump  
[#gopdebate](#)

22:41:39 - Mar 03 2016

64 130

-- Five key conservative talking heads declared that Cruz had the best night of anyone:



(AP Photo/Paul Sancya)

**“Cruz had a terrific night,”** writes **National Review** executive editor **Rich Lowry**. “He was strong and in command in his exchanges with Trump, and drew blood on Trump’s Hillary donations and the New York Times transcript. He avoided getting dragged down into the mud with Trump in the same way Rubio did. In general, he was firing on all cylinders, and his answer on Detroit was particularly good.”



**Laura Ingraham** ✓

@IngrahamAngle

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Cruz showing why he was a national debate champion.

22:17:15 - Mar 03 2016

  580  1,241





**Michelle Malkin**

@michellemalkin

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Thank you again @SenTedCruz for injecting sobriety & statesmanship into #GOPDebate

22:15:57 - Mar 03 2016

922 1,504



**Hugh Hewitt**

@hughhewitt

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Gold @Tedcruz Silver @johnkasich Bronze @marcorubio. In battle for FLA @marcorubio gains b/c DT fell. @johnkasich moved to lock down OH.

23:30:54 - Mar 03 2016

90 130



**Bill Kristol**

@BillKristol

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Watching the debate, had a moment of mystical insight and clairvoyant vision: Could we end up with a Cruz-Kasich ticket?

22:31:11 - Mar 03 2016

72 167

-- There's near consensus that Rubio diminished himself.



(AP Photo/Paul Sancya)

“The Florida senator seemed to have resigned himself to a kamikaze mission against Trump during this debate,” [writes The Fix’s Chris Cillizza, who puts him on his list of losers](#). “He jabbed at and with Trump over and over again in the debate’s first 60 minutes, turning every question — and answer — into an attack on Trump. It hurt Trump but hurt Rubio, too, as he struggled to get back to his more positive ‘new American century’ message. Rubio improved in the second half of the debate, but Cruz was better throughout. **It’s hard to see how this debate changes the dynamic set in place on Tuesday night: Trump as the favorite, Cruz with the next best chance of being the nominee, Rubio as Trump spoiler.**”



**Chuck Todd**

@chucktodd

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Rubio says he will support someone he is currently calling a "con artist". Sorta undercuts the attack, no?

23:01:14 - Mar 03 2016

564 904



**Philip Rucker**

@PhilipRucker

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Oh, boy, this [#gopdebate](#) is so unbecoming for both Trump and Rubio. Unintelligible yelling over each other.

21:21:57 - Mar 03 2016

34 49

-- By trying to stay above the fray, Kasich probably helped inject himself back into the debate and improved his chances of winning his home state of Ohio on March 15. In that 25-person focus group run by Luntz, 18 picked Kasich as the winner. Six picked Cruz, one picked Trump and none picked Rubio.