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The Week That Was

02-24-17

1. Women For Gillibrand

Our Spin:

Senator Kirsten Gillibrand publicly stated fellow New Yorker Gov. Andrew Cuomo would “be a great candidate” for president in the 2020 election. This proclamation seemed to be an attempt to close the door to her rumored bid. Gillibrand has been making headway with the liberal left by voting against the majority of Trump’s cabinet nominations. Senator Gillibrand continues to raise money for the Off The Sidelines PAC. Her book, Off The Sidelines, was a call to action for women to participate in politics. Thus, while she declines interest in a 2020 bid, she is attempting to rally women to her side in a way that Hillary Clinton was never able to accomplish.

The Story:

Earlier this week, U.S. Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand said she does not plan to run for President in 2020, despite her name continuing to be thrown into the conversation of who will run on the Democratic ticket. In an interview with Spectrum News NY 1, Gillibrand said she is concentrating on her upcoming Senate race instead. "I am entirely focused on running in 2018. I feel honored and privileged that I get to serve this state as their Senator, and I feel like as their Senator, I can fight

on all of these issues... So I would very much like to be re-elected and serve my term." Gillibrand insisted even as she rises to a new level of prominence in the Senate by opposing nearly all of President Donald Trump’s cabinet nominations, she is not interested in a White House bid. "Well what's happening right now is, unfortunately, President Trump keeps doing horrible things. Literally horrible things. So we have to fight it," Gillibrand stated. As for the candidates Gillibrand believes would be a good fit, Andrew Cuomo is one of them. “He’d be a great candidate, he’s a great governor,” she said, citing his support for paid family leave and the push to legalize same-sex marriage in 2011. “He’s done great things in our state.

[NY1
Syracuse.com](http://NY1Syracuse.com)

2. Say No To Cuomo

Our Spin:

The Governor continues to build his national profile by pushing progressive policies and introducing “first in the nation,” programs like local emergency management accreditation, free college tuition, extension of the millionaire’s tax and cyber security regulations. Despite claims of overwhelming support of Cuomo’s agenda by a

spokeswoman, Cuomo should remember he only won 16 of the state's 62 counties in the 2014 election. New York appears to be a reflection of the nation with urban centers supporting liberals and the remainder of the state and country supporting a return to conservative policies.

The Story:

A national pro-Republican political action committee is preparing to ramp up efforts to oppose Gov. Andrew Cuomo — not in expectation of his likely run for a third term next year, but with the logic he might potentially be seeking the presidency in 2020. In an interview with Fred Dicker on Albany's Talk 1300, America Rising director Colin Reed said his group plans to begin opposition research into New York's governor. "We learned with Secretary Clinton that research and narrative, they take time to sink in. And when you have the advantage of a four-year head start, you can really start to drive these things and have them sink in with the electorate," Reed said. "Political narratives take time, they take repetition, they take discipline, and they take consistency, so we're just doing our due diligence here and getting an early start on the game." Reed said ethics will be an area of focus for Cuomo, given the federal and state prosecutions related to the Buffalo Billion and other upstate economic development initiatives. Meanwhile, Richard Azzopardi, a Cuomo spokesman, dismissed the super PAC's efforts as just political business as usual. What's the news here, they do this every election?" Azzopardi stated about the super PAC's efforts, adding that New Yorkers have "overwhelmingly" supported Cuomo's agenda items such as affordable college and stopping the millionaire tax breaks. "If some beltway hacks want to waste their special interest money to be on the other side of overwhelming support, that's on them."

[Capitol Confidential](#)
[Politico](#)

3. President and the Press

Our Spin:

John Fitzgerald Kennedy once stated in a 1961 speech following the Bay of Pigs, "No President should fear public scrutiny of his program. For from that scrutiny comes understanding; and from that

understanding comes support or opposition. And both are necessary. I am not asking your newspapers to support the administration, but I am asking your help in the tremendous task of informing and alerting the American people. For I have complete confidence in the response and dedication of our citizens whenever they feel they are fully informed."

The Story:

Throughout the history of the United States, the relationship between the President and the press has been well documented. Recently the Trump administration seems to have declared war with the American press. It has also declared war on the judiciary, the Democratic leadership of Congress, and sometimes even on the Republican leadership of Congress. But it is the press, or the media, in the past week that is the target of the president's special fury. However, President Trump is not the first Commander in Chief who is not the media's number one fan. See if you can match the quotes below to the President who said it.

1. "The advertisements are the most truthful part of a newspaper."
2. "The fake news media is not my enemy, it is the enemy of the American people."
3. "A job well done is about more than just handing someone a microphone. It is to probe and to question, and to dig deeper, and to demand more. The electorate would be better served if that happened. It would be better served if billions of dollars in free media came with serious accountability."
4. "The press is the enemy."
5. "The leaks are real, the news is fake."

[Fortune](#)
[Miller Center](#)

Answers: 1. Thomas Jefferson; 2. Donald Trump; 3. Barack Obama; 4. Richard Nixon; 5. Donald Trump