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From: Anna Palmer Jake Sherman Daniel Lippman
Sent: Wed 11/15/2017 6:04:58 PM
Subject: Playbook Power Briefing, presented by Chevron: Six House Dems want IMPEACHMENT HEARINGS -- CORDRAY resigns from CFPB -- Obamacare enrollment surges -- TRUMP helps secure release of UCLA players

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Today's Playbook Power Briefing presented by Chevron

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BULLETIN -- AP at noon: "NEW YORK (AP) - Richard Cordray, Obama-appointed director of Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, says he will resign at month's end."

Good Wednesday afternoon. JAKE'S FAULT -- WE REPORTED in Playbook this morning that the debt limit and government funding need to be resolved in the next 23 days. The debt limit does not need to be lifted next month. It will need to be lifted sometime in early- to mid-2018. Another fight! In an election year!

NEW -- HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS AGAINST INDIVIDUAL MANDATE REPEAL -- America's Health Insurance Plans, American Academy of Family Physicians, American Hospital Association, American Medical Association, Blue Cross Blue Shield Association, and Federation of American Hospitals -- wrote a letter to congressional leaders urging the Hill to not cut the individual mandate during the tax cut deliberations. **The letter** <http://politi.co/2hClhSj>

BREAKING -- CLEVELAND PLAIN DEALER: "Ohio Rep. Wes Goodman resigns over 'inappropriate behavior,'" by Jackie Borchardt: "Rep. Wes Goodman resigned his seat after House leaders confronted the Cardington Republican about 'inappropriate behavior.' House Speaker Cliff Rosenberger said he was alerted Tuesday afternoon to Goodman's involvement in 'inappropriate behavior related to his state office.' Rosenberger met with Goodman later Tuesday, and the representative confirmed the allegations.

"It became clear that his resignation was the most appropriate course of action for him, his family, the constituents of the 87th House District and this institution,' Rosenberger said in a statement Wednesday. Later Wednesday morning, cleveland.com interviewed Rosenberger after an event in Wilmington, Ohio where he endorsed Attorney General Mike DeWine for governor. Rosenberger said there had been an inappropriate interaction in Goodman's office between Goodman and a person not employed by the legislature. Rosenberger wouldn't say when the incident happened or provide any more details." <http://bit.ly/2ikC8ay>

-- **GOODMAN** worked for Ohio Rep. Jim Jordan in Washington and was a well-known figure in conservative moment politics. He was known to be eyeing a run for retiring Rep. Pat Tiberi's seat.

HEADACHE FOR PELOSI -- "Six Democrats demand Trump impeachment hearings," by Nolan McCaskill: "Rep. Steve Cohen (D-Tenn.) told reporters that five other Democrats have signed on to his resolution to introduce five articles of impeachment against the president. The Democrats charge that Trump obstructed justice when he fired FBI Director James Comey; that he has violated the Constitution's emoluments clause by continuing to frequent and profit from his businesses; and that he has undermined the federal judiciary and freedom of the press." <http://politi.co/2hBuBXu>

TRUMP INC. -- "The Trump Organization sees fortunes fall," by Crain's New York's Aaron Elstein: "Not only are the Trump Organization's plans to develop a hotel here going nowhere, but prices are slumping for condos at Trump Tower and the Trump International Hotel and Tower. And golfers are shunning the Trump Golf Links at Ferry Point in the Bronx, where revenue through mid-September had fallen by more than \$1.1 million in the past two years, to \$5.7 million, amid a 16% drop in rounds played.

"In addition, the Trump Organization, a perennial leader on the Crain's list of largest privately held companies, has fallen steeply in the rankings, to No. 40 from No. 3 last year, following the president's disclosures to federal regulators that revealed the organization's revenue is less than a 10th of what the firm had reported since at least 2010." <http://bit.ly/2juZyx7>

BIG ONLINE -- "Net neutrality fight is about to flare again," by Margaret Harding McGill: "The FCC, under Trump-appointed Chairman Ajit Pai, is readying a final order that will spell out how thoroughly it intends to roll back the 2015 net neutrality order, which requires internet service providers like Verizon and Comcast to treat all web traffic equally. The release could come as early as next week, teeing up a possible commission vote in December.

"So far, Pai has said he wants to scrap the legal foundation that the FCC's old Democratic majority adopted to tighten federal oversight of ISPs, a move he contends has deterred the industry from investing in broadband networks. But he could also opt to eliminate the FCC's core net neutrality rules altogether -- which would in theory allow ISPs to block or throttle some types of web traffic, or charge websites for 'fast lanes' to consumers." <http://politi.co/2juiAnI>

PRESSURE ON COLLINS -- "Small-business group launches pro-tax reform ad campaign in Maine," by Colin Wilhelm: "The Job Creators Network, a conservative small business organization, will launch a pro-tax reform ad campaign in Maine, a move that could pressure moderate Republican Sen. Susan Collins to vote yes on the bill. ... [A release] said the ad campaign purchase is 'six-figure' and will air on cable news in the Bangor-area media market in addition to online." ***More for Pros***

<http://politico.pro/2hzeauQ>

PAGING HARRY REID -- "Trump's budget chief says funding for Yucca Mountain was his idea," by the Las Vegas Review-Journal's Debra Saunders: "President Donald Trump's top budget man, Mick Mulvaney, solved a mystery Tuesday. Asked who put \$120 million into Trump's spending plan to restart licensing for a Yucca Mountain nuclear waste repository and other interim storage, Mulvaney said he did. 'Whose idea was to put it in there?' the Office of Management and Budget director replied. 'I wrote the budget and I am very interested in seeing that issue explored further. We have to put this stuff someplace. So the \$120 million you saw, it was actually very minor. I'm surprised it got that much attention as it did. It's only to explore the possibility of licensing.'" <http://bit.ly/2A1rLny>

NOT SUBTLE AT ALL -- @MSNBC: "Roy Moore's Attny. Trenton Garmon suggests Ali Velshi's 'background' would help him understand why Moore would date underage women -- @AliVelshi is from Canada". Video <http://bit.ly/2hBrTkM>

***** **A message from Chevron:** When an endangered butterfly was found near a Chevron refinery, we protected the habitat and still plant the only thing they eat-buckwheat. Watch the video: <http://politi.co/2ArlBXy> *****

TRUMP VS. NYT -- @realDonaldTrump at 11:35 a.m.: "The failing @nytimes hates the fact that I have developed a great relationship with World leaders like Xi Jinping, President of China....." ... **at 11:39 a.m.:** "...They should realize that these relationships are a good thing, not a bad thing. The U.S. is being respected again. Watch Trade!" ... **at 11:52 a.m.:** "It is actually hard to believe how naive (or dumb) the Failing @nytimes is when it comes to foreign policy...weak and ineffective!"

RICK STENGEL in **POLITICO Magazine -- "What Hillary Knew About Putin's Propaganda Machine":** "On a Saturday morning after I'd been in the job for two months -- about four weeks after Vladimir Putin's troops invaded Crimea -- I got a call from the State Department operations center saying they had the secretary on the line. Only it wasn't Secretary John Kerry, my boss, but former Secretary Hillary Clinton. I had known, liked and admired Clinton for a long time, and I assumed she was calling belatedly to say congratulations. I was wrong. After a perfunctory hello, she launched right into it: We're losing the information war with Russia.

""**She urged me to stand up** a much stronger and more robust messaging machine to compete with the firehose of Russian propaganda and disinformation that was besmirching America's image and undermining democracy around the world. 'They're using the old techniques of repeating lies over and over but doing so on 21st century platforms,' she said. You need to fact-check what they are saying and expose Russian disinformation in real time, she continued. We need to do much more. I remember how she ended the call: 'The State Department is still issuing press releases while Putin is rewriting history.' She was right." <http://politi.co/2jsjgtw>

NOT DEAD YET -- "Defying gloomy predictions, Obamacare enrollment surges," by Paul Demko: "Doomsday headlines about Obamacare enrollment may be having an unforeseen consequence: booming sign-ups in the troubled insurance marketplaces. Obamacare's fifth open enrollment season, the first under President Donald Trump, is off to a surprisingly robust start despite the brutal developments of the past year -- skyrocketing premiums, dwindling competition, unremitting Republican efforts to eradicate it.

"Sign-ups surged as soon as enrollment opened Nov. 1, easily surpassing the number of Americans getting coverage during the opening days of the final two sign-up periods under the Obama administration. CMS on Wednesday reported nearly 1.5 million people had selected plans through Nov. 11. In other words, there might be no such thing as bad news for Obamacare." <http://politi.co/2jqAlhQ>

SPORTS BLINK -- "How Trump Helped Liberate U.C.L.A. 'Knuckleheads' From China," by NYT's Mark Landler and Mike Shear: "The alleged offense was hardly life or death. But what begun as a simple accusation of celebrity shoplifting [from three UCLA basketball players] threatened to escalate into a full-blown international incident just as Mr. Trump arrived in China on a 12-day mission through Asia, his first foreign trip to the region. 'These are law and order guys; they have pretty swift justice,' John Kelly, the president's chief of staff, said of the Chinese authorities in a telephone interview later. 'An awful lot of American kids don't realize that the kinds of things that in United States society we tolerate with a slap on the wrist, a lot of countries they take very seriously.' ...

"Mr. Kelly, who arrived back in the United States with Mr. Trump Tuesday night aboard Air Force One, provided details about the president's diplomatic outreach on behalf of the U.C.L.A. players. 'Our president said to Xi, "Do you know anything about these knuckleheads that got caught allegedly stealing?"' Mr. Kelly said. Unaware of the episode, the Chinese president dispatched an aide to get more information. 'The president was saying, 'It's not too serious. We'd love to see this taken care of in an expeditious way," Mr. Kelly added." <http://nyti.ms/2hCMcOJ>

-- **@realDonaldTrump** at 10:11 a.m.: "Do you think the three UCLA Basketball Players will say thank you President Trump? They were headed for 10 years in jail!"

MEDIAWATCH -- "'Unsafe and Just Plain Dirty': Women Accuse Vice of 'Toxic' Sexual Harassment Culture," by Brandy Zadrozny in the Daily Beast: "The Daily Beast spoke with more than a dozen former and current Vice employees in recent weeks about the culture for women inside Vice Media -- and they painted a picture of harassing behavior and company indifference. ... Vice founders Gavin McInnes and Shane Smith have been open about the fact that the Vice brand was built, at least in part, on the objectification of women. In the 90's-era magazine (mostly written by McInnes) naked women graced the magazine's covers and sexual exploitation filled its pages via fact-free articles and features ...

"But their brand expanded quickly. The once humble hipster bible has turned into a

major media player by answering the prayers of old guard media companies vying for millennials -- an audience Vice executives claim to have cornered. Today, Vice is valued at \$5.7 billion, thanks to some major investments from Disney and 21st Century Fox. Meanwhile, the men in charge claim to have grown up alongside their company, evolving from 'ignorant, disrespectful and juvenile boors' to leaders of an empire, and purging the most noxious-- namely McInnes -- from their ranks. ...

"While that transformation may be true in terms of reach and wealth, several former employees told The Daily Beast the company is far from the woke media giant it claims to be -- especially in its dealings with the women it employs. In a post-Harvey Weinstein world, where allegations of sexual harassment and assault have ended the careers of powerful journalists like Mark Halperin and Leon Wieseltier, insiders say the spotlight may soon be turning on Vice." <http://thebea.st/2hCxoQb>

AFTERNOON READ -- "Hate in America: Where it comes from and why it's back," by Yahoo News' Andrew Romano and Lisa Belkin: "Today's haters -- the white-nationalist radicals of the so-called alt-right -- are not nearly as powerful as Adolf Hitler's Nazis, or as pervasive as the small-town bigots of the Jim Crow South. But that doesn't mean they're harmless. Like all waves of hate, this newest one comes with distinct origins and unique challenges.

"Specifically, the rise of the alt-right has been enabled by changing norms and technology that make it easier to become radicalized in the first place. In fact, the rise of hate within America shares roots with the rise of hate toward America; the same tools and trends are helping to facilitate both terrorism and nativism. Hate, in short, is becoming more accessible than ever before -- and that poses a distinctive, and particularly insidious, threat." <https://yhoo.it/2juCKh9>

CONGRATS -- Matt Friedman, the author of the New Jersey Playbook, who was named to POLITICKER NJ's annual Power List <http://bit.ly/2hBxEyQ>

TRANSITIONS -- OBAMA ALUMNI -- AVRIL HAINES, former deputy director of the CIA and former deputy national security adviser to President Obama, joined the faculty of the Columbia Law School.

WELCOME TO THE WORLD - Joy Swain, director of corporate research at the U.S. Chamber and a VOX Global alum, and **John Baker**, branch chief of personnel, administration, and travel for the Military Commissions Defense Organization, on Sunday welcomed Samaira Rose Baker, born 6 lbs, 9 oz. *Pic* <http://bit.ly/2hCYuqD>

***** **A message from Chevron:** This is a story about DOERS, butterflies, and buckwheat. In '75, the endangered El Segundo Blue butterfly was found near a Chevron refinery. We protected the habitat and planted the only thing they eat-buckwheat. We're still planting and keeping an eye on our littlest neighbor. Watch the video:

<http://politi.co/2ArIBXv> *****

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