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**From:** Anna Palmer Jake Sherman Daniel Lippman  
**Sent:** Wed 11/8/2017 6:17:36 PM  
**Subject:** Playbook Power Briefing, presented by Morgan Stanley: Judge issues GAG ORDER in MANAFORT and GATES cases -- CBO issues new preliminary estimate for ACA mandate repeal -- GOP Senate leaders to brief conference TOMORROW on tax reform

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Today's Playbook Power Briefing presented by Morgan Stanley

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**TEXAS REP. AL GREEN** said on the House floor that the chamber will vote on a resolution to impeach Donald Trump before Christmas.

**Good Wednesday afternoon. THE CBO** said that repealing the Obamacare mandate would reduce the deficit by \$338 billion from 2018 to 2027 in a preliminary estimate. The savings would come from reduced spending on ACA subsidies. **More from Jen Haberkorn** <http://politi.co/2zqT3zf>

**FIRST IN PLAYBOOK -- OHIO SEN. ROB PORTMAN**, a member of the Senate Finance Committee, huddled with conservative outside groups this afternoon to discuss tax reform. The meeting -- hosted by the American Action Network, whose offices are down the street from the White House -- comes as the Senate prepares to release its tax reform bill. **PORTMAN** told the group that last night's electoral results give Republicans even more of a reason to get results and get tax reform done, according to one attendee. **SPOTTED** : American Action Forum president Doug Holtz-Eakin, AAN Executive Director Corry Bliss, America Rising's Jeff Larson, American Crossroads' Steven Law, America First Policies' Erin Montgomery, White House Senate leg affairs liaison Amy Swonger, Treasury's Shannon McGahn, Derrick Dockery from Speaker Paul Ryan's office, Bill Miller of BRT and Mattie Duppler from the National Taxpayers Union.

**-- ALSO A SCOOP: COMING OFF OF A GOOD NIGHT FOR DEMS -- DOUG JONES**, who is running against Roy Moore in Alabama, is making the trek to Washington to raise money next Tuesday. DSCC Chair Jon Tester (Mont.) and Sens. Mark Warner (Va.) and Martin Heinrich (N.M.) are listed as special guests for the fundraiser. Hosts include: Jeff Forbes, Zach Williams, Libby Greer, Jay Driscoll, Elizabeth Lowery and Jenny DiJames.

**GET READY -- "Senate GOP to unveil tax bill that diverges from House plan,"** by Seung Min Kim and Josh Dawsey: "GOP leaders will brief the conference on the details of their long-awaited tax overhaul legislation on Thursday morning at 11:30 a.m. in the Strom Thurmond room at the Capitol, according to two sources. The session is meant to

walk senators who are not on the tax-writing Finance Committee through the intricacies of the GOP's tax bill before unveiling it to the public. The plan is expected to have significant differences from the House legislation." <http://politi.co/2yhGLrv>

-- **STEVEN MNUCHIN** to Bloomberg's Michael McKee: "Our strong preference is that the corporate tax rate starts next year." <https://bloom.bg/2AvaFdG>

**NOT CHANGING COURSE -- "EPA's Pruitt vows to continue rolling back rules despite alarming climate report,"** by USA Today's Ledyard King: "EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt said a newly released government report that lays most of the blame for the rise of global temperatures to human activity won't deter him from continuing to roll back the Obama-era Clean Power Plan, a major rule aimed at combating climate change. 'We're taking the very necessary step to evaluate our authority under the Clean Air Act and we'll take steps that are required to issue a subsequent rule. That's our focus,' Pruitt said in an interview with USA TODAY Tuesday. 'Does this report have any bearing on that? No it doesn't. It doesn't impact the withdrawal and it doesn't impact the replacement.'" <https://usat.ly/2j9MzAW> ... **The government report** <http://bit.ly/2jdvDcV>

**THE LATEST ON RUSSIA -- "Judge issues gag order in Manafort, Gates case,"** by Josh Gerstein: "The federal judge overseeing the criminal case against former Trump campaign chairman Paul Manafort and his associate Rick Gates has issued a gag order limiting comments to the media and the public by lawyers, defendants and witnesses in the case. U.S. District Court Judge Amy Berman Jackson's directive Wednesday doesn't ban such statements outright, but prohibits any remarks that 'pose a substantial likelihood of material prejudice to this case.'" <http://politi.co/2zr0EOv>

-- **"Russia investigators probe 2016 GOP platform fight,"** by Josh Meyer: "U.S. investigators are focusing on an enduring mystery of the 2016 election: whether Trump campaign officials made the Republican Party platform more friendly to Russia as part of some broader effort to collude with the Kremlin, according to congressional records and people familiar with the probes.

**"Congressional investigators have interviewed** ex-Donald Trump aides and advisers including J.D. Gordon, the national security policy representative at last year's GOP convention, about the campaign's push to remove proposed language from the 2016 Republican platform that called for giving weapons to Ukraine. People involved with crafting the platform also were expecting interest from special counsel Robert Mueller's team, such as witness interviews or producing documents, some of those sources said." <http://politi.co/2AsGAv7>

-- **"Inside secret court hearing in Mueller's Trump-Russia probe: Audio reveals details of George Papadopoulos' July arraignment in closed Virginia courtroom,"** by Josh Gerstein <http://politi.co/2AsHI7r>

**ROLLBACK -- "New Trump Rules Pare Back Obama's Opening to Cuba,"** by WSJ's Louise Radnofsky and Felicia Schwartz: "The Trump administration on Wednesday

continued its bid to pare back former President Barack Obama's campaign to normalize ties with Cuba, announcing regulations tightening travel and financial transactions by Americans. ...

**"The changes being detailed Wednesday** are mainly connected to the ability of individuals to travel to the island while also curtailing some business interactions, though leaving much of Mr. Obama's shift in place. Under rules that will come Wednesday from the Treasury Department and the State Department, many Americans who want to visit Cuba will have to do so by traveling through operators who are subject to U.S. jurisdiction and be accompanied by a representative of a sponsoring organization that is also subject to U.S. jurisdiction." <http://on.wsj.com/2As4yqx>

\*\*\*\*\* **A message from Morgan Stanley:** Consumers want new and now, a trend pushing athletic-wear brands to rethink how fast they can design and manufacture footwear. The rise of "fast fashion" is pushing brands to continuously roll out new models. The shift poses both a challenge and an opportunity. [Read more.](#) \*\*\*\*\*

**AFTERNOON READ -- MICHAEL KRUSE in POLITICO MAGAZINE -- "Johnstown Never Believed Trump Would Help. They Still Love Him Anyway":** "A year later, the local unemployment rate [in Johnstown, Pa.] has ticked down, and activity in a few coal mines has ticked up. Beyond that, though, not much has changed -- at least not for the better. Johnstown and the surrounding region are struggling in the same ways and for the same reasons. The drug problem is just as bad. 'There's nothing good in the area,' [Pam] Schilling said the other day in her living room. 'I don't have anything good to say about anything in this area. It's sad.' Even so, her backing for Trump is utterly undiminished: 'I'm a supporter of him, 100 percent.'

**"What I heard from Schilling** is overwhelmingly what I heard in my follow-up conversations with people here that I talked to last year as well. Over the course of three rainy, dreary days last week, I revisited and shook hands with the president's base -- that thirtysomething percent of the electorate who resolutely approve of the job he is doing, the segment of voters who share his view that the Russia investigation is a 'witch hunt' that 'has nothing to do with him,' and who applaud his judicial nominees and his determination to gut the federal regulatory apparatus. But what I wasn't prepared for was how readily these same people had abandoned the contract he had made with them. Their satisfaction with Trump now seems untethered to the things they once said mattered to them the most." <http://politi.co/2yiArAh>

**THE FUTURE IS HERE -- "Uber Partners With NASA in Vision for Managing Flying Cars,"** by Bloomberg's Natalie Wong and Edward Ludlow: "The ride-sharing startup has said it plans to roll out an on-demand vertical take-off and landing (VTOL) network in Dallas and Dubai by 2020, and Wednesday added Los Angeles to the list. But many regulatory hurdles will need to be cleared before that can happen, including approval by the Federal Aviation Administration, which will have to figure out how flying cars can get along with airplanes, helicopters and drones in the sky. On Tuesday, Uber took a step toward resolving that by signing an agreement with the National Aeronautics and Space

Administration to develop new traffic concepts that will enable safe and efficient operations of robotic flight systems, the company said." <https://bloom.bg/2AtdpYT>

**FLASHBACK -- POLITICO, NOV. 4:** "On Election Night last year, Trump ripped up his speech and made a personal appeal for national unity. It was a glimpse of a presidency that might have been." <http://politi.co/2AjqKTP>

-- **WASHINGTON POST, NOV. 7:** "The victory speech was a glimpse of a presidency that might have been." <http://wapo.st/2Akfg1a>

**ELI LAKE in Bloomberg View, "The Promising Crisis in Saudi Arabia:** Purging rivals is often a bad sign. But in this case it may show an impatience to reform": "To start, Trump's son-in-law, Jared Kushner, has been cultivating his own relationship with the Saudi crown prince and heir apparent in the last year. ... And even though Kushner is a foreign-affairs amateur compared with the pros in the cabinet, his instincts are not wrong. Mohammed bin Salman has publicly stated his desire to move Saudi Arabia in the direction in which U.S. presidents from both parties have prodded the kingdom for decades. This includes a willingness to target not only fundraising for terrorist groups, but also the radical clerics who spread a hateful and extremist ideology; allowing women to drive and participate more in public life; allowing outside foreign investment; and modernizing a sclerotic military." <https://bloom.bg/2zsH6t0>

**DANIEL'S POSTCARD FROM THE FAITH ANGLE FORUM -- ANDREW SULLIVAN,** speaking on the effects of overuse of technology: "One of the great mistakes that people make is thinking that being online constantly and on your phone constantly is simply an addition to what you're already doing. ... But I think that over time you realize that in fact it's not. It really is either/or. You're either present or you're in that world, in this world of constant distraction, news and ideas and a world that is not actually happening around you or even with people you connect with. ... I realize that of the 8 or 9 hours I spent a day online, I wasn't spending with my friends, I wasn't spending with my husband, I wasn't spending actually reading anything. I was absorbing information which is a very different thing." ***Sullivan's NYMag cover story, "I Used to Be a Human Being"*** <http://slct.al/2zFs3yX>

**MEDIAWATCH -- JOE BIDEN** will appear on all four hours of NBC's "Today" on Nov. 13. He'll also appear on "The Late Show with Stephen Colbert" that night.

**JOB SEARCH -- Listing at the NRA** for "Field Representative, South Texas" ***Job posting on Daybook*** <http://bit.ly/2jcXb1J>

**HOT TRAILER --** The first trailer for "The Post," starring Meryl Streep and Tom Hanks as WaPo's Katharine Graham and Ben Bradlee in the aftermath of the New York Times' big Pentagon Papers scoop, posted yesterday. <http://bit.ly/2ygo0EU>

**SPORTS BLINK -- "Secret services: The hidden sports finances of Army, Navy and Air Force,"** by USA Today's Brent Schrotenboer and Steve Berkowitz: "All three

U.S. service academy sports programs are part of treasured federal institutions that are funded by taxpayer dollars. Yet unlike other public universities directly funded by taxpayer support, Navy, Air Force and Army say they don't have to disclose coaches' employment contracts and other financial records that even private schools must provide.

**"The bigger question is why.** A USA TODAY Sports inquiry found the answer lies in loopholes and outsourcing that is largely a result of the academies getting pulled into the vortex of the big-spending world of major-college sports." <https://usat.ly/2jdddZt>

**SPOTTED** -- Gary Cohn and his wife at Cafe Milano last night ... former DHS Secretary Tom Ridge on the Dulles shuttle, chatting up and asking about the families of the shuttle's staff (who recognized him immediately, according to our tipster) ... Sen. Mark Warner (D-Va.) dining at Nobu DC last night before attending the Virginia victory rally

**SPOTTED** at a book party last night for Ken Stern and his new book "Republican Like Me: How I Left the Liberal Bubble and Learned to Love the Right" ( **\$16.79 on Amazon** <http://amzn.to/2znF3ZO>): Host Amb. Bobby Mandell, Susan Eisenhower, Susan Lagana, Kate Stack, Ben Chang, Luxembourg Amb. Sylvie Lucas, Adm. Mike Lyden, Steve Menashi.

**OUT AND ABOUT -- GCI, Alaska's largest telecom provider**, hosted an event at NCTA headquarters in Washington last night celebrating the completion of a rural broadband network. **SPOTTED:** Sens. Lisa Murkowski (R-Alaska) and Dan Sullivan (R-Alaska), Reps. Don Young (R-Alaska) and Patrick McHenry (R-N.C.), Nick Hanson, Greg Chapados, Tina Pidgeon, Meg Baldino, Heather Handyside, Michael Powell, Tina Pelkey, Mike Dubke, Carl Forti, Chris Maloney, Mike Pawlowski, Larry Burton, Robyn Engibous ***Pic of Murkowski and Nick Hanson doing a 'seal hop'*** <http://bit.ly/2ygmIDu>

**BONUS BIRTHDAY -- Ashley Balcerzak**, a federal politics reporter at the Center for Public Integrity (hat tip: Dave Levinthal)

\*\*\*\*\* **A message from Morgan Stanley:** It has become commonplace for consumers to see new footwear styles online and shop for them instantly-followed by speedy delivery. For the world's largest athletic brands, the shift toward "new and now" poses both a challenge and an opportunity. Revamping the lengthy design and manufacture process for footwear can be arduous, while streamlining the process to incorporate new technology for creating prototypes and 3D printing can speed production of key materials. These and other innovations could boost revenues, improve margins, reduce operational risk, and finally, win more market share in an already booming category. Since 2007, global sales of athletic wear have increased 61%, and faster supply chains can help sustain that growth for years to come. As brands shift investments toward digital design and automated manufacturing, digitization could have a significant impact on supply chains. [Read more.](#) \*\*\*\*\*

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