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**From:** Morning Media  
**Sent:** Thur 9/28/2017 9:39:59 AM  
**Subject:** Morning Media: Marty Baron hasn't reached 'the lying point' -- Jemele Hill speaks -- Zuckerberg regrets -- Carville's new gig

By Michael Calderone | 09/28/2017 05:38 AM EDT

**THE WASHINGTON POST ISN'T #RESISTING:** Executive editor Marty Baron told The Atlantic's Jeffrey Goldberg at Wednesday's Washington Ideas forum that "we don't view ourselves as part of the resistance" and instead offered what's becoming a Post newsroom mantra: "We're not at war. We're at work."

-- **Hours earlier, President Trump accused** the Post of being "anti-Trump" and suggested the paper joined The New York Times, TV networks, and Facebook in colluding against him. "I think he went through a process of initially condemning us," Baron said of Trump's media attacks, "and then trying to delegitimize us, and then even dehumanizing us, saying we were the lowest form of humanity, and then when that wasn't enough, saying we were the lowest form of life itself."

-- **Unlike The New York Times,** The Post has refrained from characterizing any of Trump's false claims as "lies" in headlines or news stories. "I think you have to actually have documentation, proof, that whoever you're saying lied actually knew that what he or she was saying was in fact false," Baron told Goldberg.

-- **It's true journalists can't read minds** and so are understandably hesitant to assert someone is knowingly making a false claim. And the White House, at times, has exploited this journalistic convention by resorting to the George Costanza defense: "It's not a lie if you believe it." That's how the White House handled evidence-free claims about voter fraud.

-- **Goldberg pressed,** "You don't believe that the president has knowingly articulated a falsehood?" Baron said he thinks "we're getting to the lying point." What could tip The Post over the edge is unclear. When I asked Baron later about reaching the "lying point," he said he did "not have a particular story in mind."

**Good morning and welcome to Morning Media.** Send all your newsroom memos my way at [mcalderone@politico.com](mailto:mcalderone@politico.com) and follow at [@mlcalderone](https://twitter.com/mlcalderone). Morning Media is edited by Alex Weprin ([@alexweprin](https://twitter.com/alexweprin)), with contributions from Daniel Lippman ([@dlippman](https://twitter.com/dlippman)) and Cristiano Lima ([@ludacristiano](https://twitter.com/ludacristiano)). [Archives](#). [Subscribe](#).

**RIP: HUGH HEFNER,** the legendary Playboy founder, died Wednesday at his home. He was 91. [The Times:](#) "Hefner the man and Playboy the brand were inseparable. Both advertised themselves as emblems of the sexual revolution, an escape from American priggishness and wider social intolerance. Both were derided over the years - as vulgar, as adolescent, as exploitative, and finally as anachronistic. But Mr. Hefner was a stunning success from his emergence in the early 1950s. His timing was perfect."

**TUNE-IN:** President Trump will appear on his favorite morning show, "Fox & Friends," for an interview with Pete Hegseth from Indiana. And at 9 p.m.: Rush Limbaugh heads to "Hannity."

**IS THE MEDIA GIVING BREITBART TOO MUCH CREDIT?** Washingtonian's Elaina Plott argues that factors predating Breitbart's weeks-long crusade for Roy Moore led to his victory in Alabama. They just don't make for as good copy. "By this point, every political reporter knows how to punch out a story on the so-called GOP civil war...In our perpetuation of that narrative, especially after elections that prove it's not even half the story, reporters continue to give folks like Bannon ample, if undefined, evidence of Breitbart's clout," she writes. "The result is that Breitbart, a site that touts its extra-Beltway bona fides, owes Washington for its ever-growing mythos."

**JEMELE HILL OPENS UP** on ESPN's "The Undefeated": "Since my tweets criticizing President Donald Trump exploded into a national story, the most difficult part for me has been watching ESPN become a punching bag and seeing a dumb narrative kept alive about the company's political leanings....But this isn't about that. It's simply indicative of just how complex things get for people in OUR position - especially if you're a woman and a person of color."

**BUZZFEED WANTS COMEY, CLAPPER TESTIMONY** -- POLITICO'S Josh Gerstein : "BuzzFeed is escalating its legal battle for details on how the federal government handled a dossier containing salacious allegations about President Donald Trump. Lawyers for the online news outlet are asking a federal court in Washington to force the Justice Department, the FBI and the director of national intelligence, as well as former FBI Director James Comey and former director of national intelligence James Clapper to answer a series of questions about what officials had done in connection with the dossier as of the time BuzzFeed published it Jan. 10."

**CHRIS HAYES SURVIVED** rumors years back that he'd lose his MSNBC primetime slot. And now he tells The Hollywood Reporter's Jeremy Barr: "I want to be No. 1. We want to be the most-watched show in our time slot. That's the goal."

**SPOTTED:** Melania Trump yesterday at 1 World Trade Center. But contrary to rumors, she wasn't visiting Condé Nast.

### **REVOLVING DOOR:**

**Megan Liberman**, a former New York Times editor and most recently Yahoo News editor-in-chief, is joining SiriusXM as senior vice president for News, Talk & Entertainment.

**James Carville** is joining the faculty of LSU'sanship School of Mass Communication in January. Dean Jerry Ceppos said the veteran Democratic strategist "epitomizes the mission of the anship School...to teach and conduct research at the intersection of media and public affairs."

**Susan Glasser**, the former editor of POLITICO and currently our chief international affairs columnist, will also turn domestically in a new twice-monthly column for The New Yorker's site. Editor David Remnick and NewYorker.com editor Michael Luo wrote in a memo that Glasser is "particularly interested in exploring how the villagers are responding to the disruption of the

Trump Presidency."

**Erica Grieder** next month is moving to Houston, where she'll be joining the Houston Chronicle as a metro columnist. She is an alum of Texas Monthly and The Economist.

**Jill Jackson** is moving to Seattle, where she will rejoin KUOW Public Radio as its news director. She was an intern for the station in 2003 and most recently a senior producer in the D.C. bureau.

**Siddhartha Mukherjee**, a physician and scientist at Columbia University, has been named "On Medicine columnist" columnist for The New York Times Magazine.

**Dawn Bridges**, a veteran public relations executive, has joined Fusion Media Group as executive vice president of communications.

**ZUCKERBERG REGRETS:** On his [Facebook page](#), on course: "After the election, I made a comment that I thought the idea misinformation on Facebook changed the outcome of the election was a crazy idea. Calling that crazy was dismissive and I regret it. This is too important an issue to be dismissive. But the data we have has always shown that our broader impact -- from giving people a voice to enabling candidates to communicate directly to helping millions of people vote -- played a far bigger role in this election."

**AND TWITTER'S ROLE?** From the [NYT's Daisuke Wakabayashi and Scott Shane](#): "There is evidence that Twitter may have been used even more extensively than Facebook in the Russian influence campaign last year. In addition to Russia-linked Twitter accounts that posed as Americans, the platform was also used for large-scale automated messaging, using "bot" accounts to spread false stories and promote news articles about emails from Democratic operatives that had been obtained by Russian hackers."

**"LET TRUMP HAVE 280 CHARACTERS"** -- [POLITICO'S Jack Shafer](#): "How will the new order affect Trump? Will he continue to abide the space constraints that have served him so well, or will he stretch into the new space the way he often does during hour two of his public addresses, when the drama stalls and the throng turns restless?"

#### **SOUND BITES:**

-- "The whole concept of a paid\_@CNN contributor who is paid because he's pro-Trump makes no sense - journalistically. Sit com logic: yes." [[Jay Rosen](#)]

-- "I remain astonished/dumfounded as to the lack of collective anger toward Russia's clear intentions to screw with our democracy. Anyone else?" [[Richard Deitsch](#)]

#### **EXTRAS:**

-- John Legend [fears](#) a Sinclair-Tribune merger would hurt independent and local media. He cites WGN America, the Tribune-owned cable channel that Sinclair could soon acquire. WGN also

airs Legend's drama series "Underground."

-- New pro-Trump CNN contributor Ed Martin has in the past called CNN "fake news," "state-run media," and claimed the network had not "been credible for a long time," before joining the channel.

-- Breitbart tries to capitalize off of readers opposition to athletes protesting racial injustice.

-- The case against those long glamorous profiles of peddlers of "fake news."

-- Anthony Scaramucci plans to launch his new Scaramucci Post media venture... whatever it is... on Oct. 2.

-- "60 Minutes" lands the first interview with House Majority Whip Steve Scalise since he was shot in June.

**KICKER:**

"We are not the enemies of the people. We are the eyes and the ears of the people," *NBC News' Andrea Mitchell at IRTS Foundation's "Giants of Broadcasting" luncheon on Wednesday.*

*To view online:*

<http://www.politico.com/tipsheets/morning-media/2017/09/28/marty-baron-hasnt-reached-the-lying-point-jemele-hill-speaks-zuckerberg-regrets-carvilles-new-gig-222518>

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