

Trump invokes sex scandals of President Bill Clinton

FROM A1

said, adding that she did not believe Trump had the “fitness to serve” as commander in chief.

The second debate was a town hall format, with several undecided voters sitting on stage with the candidates. The voters, all from the St. Louis area, were selected by Gallup.

The tension between Trump and Clinton was palpable from the start of their 90-minute debate, the second time they have faced off in the presidential campaign. They did not shake hands as they met at center stage.

Trump, who is several inches taller than Clinton, stood close behind her as she answered questions from the voters. At other times, he paced the stage, repeatedly interrupting her and criticizing the moderators.

The businessman opened the debate with a flood of insults aimed at Clinton, accusing her of having “lied about a lot of things” and insinuating she was the “devil.” He struggled to articulate detailed policy proposals, repeatedly dancing around questions about how he would replace President Barack Obama’s health care law, a measure he has vowed to replace.

Trump made clear that he did not agree with running mate Mike Pence on how to deal with war-torn Syria. Last week, Pence said that the U.S. military should be ready to strike Syrian military targets that are under the command of President Bashar Assad. The threat of military action against the Russia-backed Assad government marks a departure from Trump’s preference for a focus on Islamic State targets.

Said Trump: “He and I haven’t spoken and I disagree.”

Trump’s campaign was already struggling before the

new video was released, due in part to his uneven performance in the first presidential debate. Many Republicans saw Sunday’s showdown as his last best chance to salvage his campaign.

It was unclear whether Trump’s performance did anything to expand his support beyond his core backers. He did repeatedly cast Clinton as a career politician who had accomplished little during her years in Washington and would be incapable of bringing about change, one of his strongest argument in a campaign that has highlighted American’s deep frustration.

“With her, it’s all talk and no action,” Trump said.

The new revelations about Trump overshadowed potentially damaging revelations about Clinton’s paid speeches to Wall Street firms. Emails released by Wikileaks last week showed Clinton told a group that it’s acceptable for a president to project differing positions in public and private.

Asked in the debate whether that’s “two-faced,” Clinton pointed to Abraham Lincoln, saying he did whatever he could to get the 13th Amendment passed, allowing emancipation of the slaves, by lawmakers who did not support African-American equality.

“I was making the point it is hard sometimes to get the Congress to do what you want them to do. That was a great display of presidential leadership.”

Rolling his eyes, Trump said, “Now she’s blaming the late, great Abraham Lincoln.”

The political firestorm that preceded the debate was sparked by a video obtained and released Friday by The Washington Post and NBC News. In the video, Trump, who was married to his current wife at the time, is heard describing attempts to have sex with a married woman. He

also brags to Billy Bush of “Access Hollywood” about women letting him kiss them and grab their genitals because he is famous.

NBC said Sunday that it had indefinitely suspended Bush, now a “Today” show personality, for his role in the crude conversation with Trump.

Trump used the revelations as an opening to make good on his repeated promises to throw Bill Clinton’s sexual history into the center of his campaign against his wife. Less than two hours before the debate, he brazenly met publicly with several women who have accused Bill Clinton of unwanted sexual advances and even rape.

Trump refused to answer questions from reporters about his own aggressive sexual remarks about women during the meeting in a hotel conference room with Paula Jones, Juanita Broadrick and Kathleen Willey. Kathy Shelton, a fourth woman who appeared with Trump, was a 12-year-old Arkansas sexual assault victim whose alleged assailant was defended by Hillary Clinton.

Some of the women seated alongside him, however, were graphic in their accusations against the Clintons.

“Mr. Trump may have said some bad words, but Bill Clinton raped me and Hillary Clinton threatened me,” Broadrick said. “I don’t think there’s any comparison.”

Broadrick, a former Arkansas nursing home administrator, first claimed 17 years ago that Bill Clinton raped her during a meeting in Little Rock in 1978. Her lawsuit against him was dismissed in 2001 and criminal charges were never filed. Clinton has denied the allegations.



SCOTT RITTER/THE DAY

This map shows the location of monitoring buoys that will be placed in the Thames River for sturgeon and marine life.

Navy to monitor river life

FROM A1

The monitoring is being done as part of environmental assessments required for the planned demolition of Pier 32 and replacement with a wider, longer pier for Virginia-class submarines. The project, planned for 2019, will include dredging of the navigation channel in the river, she said.

Chris Zendan, public affairs officer for the sub base, said the monitoring will take place over the next two years.

“While we are certainly interested in the possibility of identifying tagged Atlantic sturgeon, we are not exclusively conducting this effort focusing on sturgeon or seals,” he said.

However, any findings of Atlantic sturgeon using the river will be of particular interest to the Navy because of their status as an endangered species, which affords them greater protection. During earlier monitoring in 2015, a 2- to 3-year-old tagged sturgeon was found swimming in the river near the sub base. The sturgeon had an electronic tag implanted by a re-

searcher on Long Island.

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration’s Greater Atlantic Fisheries Office has been contacted by the Navy about the planned pier project, said John Ewald, spokesman for NOAA. The agency is responsible for enforcing Endangered Species Act provisions on marine animals, as well as the Marine Mammal Protection Act that prohibits the killing or harassment of seals without a permit.

Ewald said new approaches announced last month to preventing harmful noise impacts to marine life will not affect the Navy’s monitoring work but may alter the pier demolition and construction project in the future. The new Ocean Noise Strategy is intended to better address the impacts of ocean noise on protected species, he said.

McKenzie said if sturgeon and seals are found through the monitoring, the Navy will work with the National Marine Fisheries Service, a division of NOAA, to determine how to lessen impacts of the construction work on these species. The Navy could be required to keep noise levels from pile driving and other work below certain thresholds, install equipment to contain noise or to stop work during certain times of the year critical for spawning or other activities.

“It won’t affect our mission,” she said. “It may add process and it may add time or affect construction schedules.”

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Hours before debate, Trump appears with Bill Clinton’s accusers

By CHRIS MEGERIAN
Los Angeles Times

With less than two hours until the second presidential debate, Donald Trump appeared before reporters with women who have accused former President Bill Clinton of sexual misconduct in decades past.

One by one, the women defended Trump, denounced Clinton and criticized Hillary Clinton, Trump’s Democratic opponent.

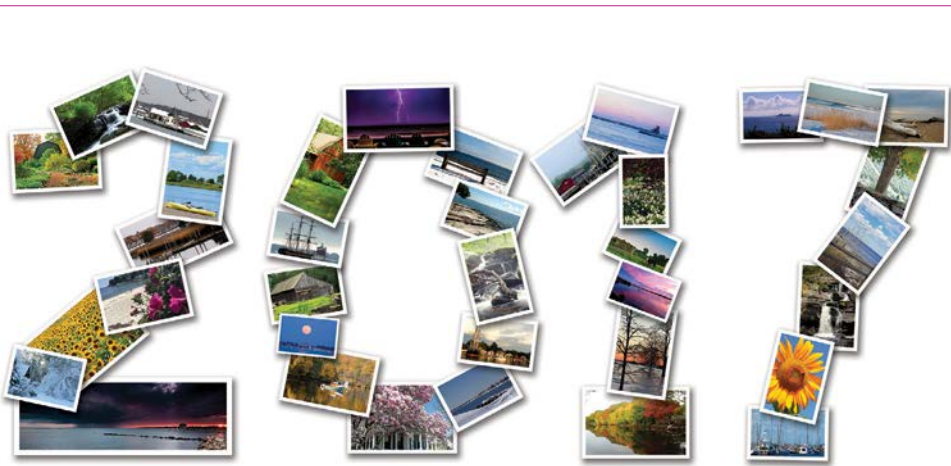
“Mr. Trump may have said some bad words,” said Juanita Broadrick. “But Bill Clinton raped me. And Hillary Clinton threatened me. I don’t think there’s any comparison.”

Broadrick has previously said Clinton raped her in 1978, an accusation that was never adjudicated and did not emerge publicly until 21 years later.

The statement that Hillary “threatened” her is a reference to a conversation the two had shortly after the encounter she has said she had with Bill. At a political event, Hillary Clinton thanked Broadrick, who had volunteered for Bill Clinton’s campaign for Arkansas governor. Broadrick has said she felt Hillary was thanking her for not exposing Bill. Clinton has said she doesn’t remember the conversation.

It quickly became apparent that Trump’s media event, no more than a few minutes long, was designed to help draw attention from his own flailing campaign after dozens of Republicans rescinded their support of him over a 2005 video in which he talks about taking advantage of his celebrity to grope women.

Trump has repeatedly pointed to allegations against Bill Clinton as his own history with women has been scrutinized during the campaign.



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