

Conservatives plot Trump demise as he eyes Arizona win

Associated Press

SUN CITY, Ariz. — Fearful of a Donald Trump nomination to lead the GOP, conservative leaders huddled privately in Washington on Thursday in search of a plan to stop the billionaire businessman.

The GOP has an eager alternative in Texas Sen. Ted Cruz, yet some party leaders are exploring "other avenues" instead of rallying behind the fiery conservative, an ominous sign that Republican leaders' deep dislike of Cruz complicates their overwhelming concern about Trump.

"The establishment is like a wounded animal, now cornered," said Mark Meckler, an early leader in the tea party movement. "They are terrified, irrational and flailing wildly."

Even after being denied victory in five contests Tuesday, Cruz insists he still has a path to the 1,237 dele-

gates necessary to claim the Republican presidential nomination. But in a strategy memo obtained by The Associated Press, his campaign essentially cedes Arizona's March 22 primary to Trump and acknowledges Cruz must win 79 percent of the remaining delegates before the GOP's July national convention.

"This is the moment for all those who believe in a strong America to come together and craft a new path forward," Cruz declared on Twitter while conservatives were meeting in downtown Washington to brainstorm ways to stop his party's front-runner.

Organizers of the meeting included conservative commentator Erick Erickson and Christian conservative leader Bob Fischer. The goal, as stated in the invitation, was "to strategize how to defeat Donald Trump for the Republican nomination, and if he is the Republican nominee for president, to offer a true conservative candidate in the general election."

The group released a statement

after roughly four hours behind closed doors calling for a "unity ticket that unites the Republican Party."

While many in the room supported Cruz, they declined to endorse the Texas senator or the only other remaining presidential contender, Ohio Gov. John Kasich, and instead urged all former Republican presidential candidates to unite against Trump. They also embraced the possibility of a contested convention.

"Lastly, we intend to keep our options open as to other avenues to oppose Donald Trump," they said, an apparent reference to a possible third-party candidacy that might stop Trump but would likely sacrifice the Republican Party's chances in the general election to Democrat Hillary Clinton.

On Capitol Hill, South Carolina Sen. Lindsey Graham said he'd help Cruz raise campaign cash in the hope of stopping Trump's march.

Graham, who dropped his own presidential bid last month, called

Cruz "a reliable Republican." That was a sharp shift from Graham's recent statement comparing the choice between Trump and Cruz to "the difference between poisoned or shot — you're still dead."

Amid the Republican chaos, Democratic front-runner Clinton focused on fundraising as her campaign begins to look ahead to the general election. She claimed a fifth victory in Tuesday's primaries, as rival Bernie Sanders conceded defeat in Missouri.

However, Sanders continued to campaign aggressively ahead of contests in Arizona and Utah.

Arizona residents are far more likely to see commercials for Sanders than for any other candidate in either party, advertising tracker Kantar Media's CMAG shows. Though trailing badly in delegates, he is spending about \$1.8 million on Arizona ads, triple Clinton.

On the Republican side, so far only Cruz is advertising in the state.

While none of the Republican candidates campaigned publicly

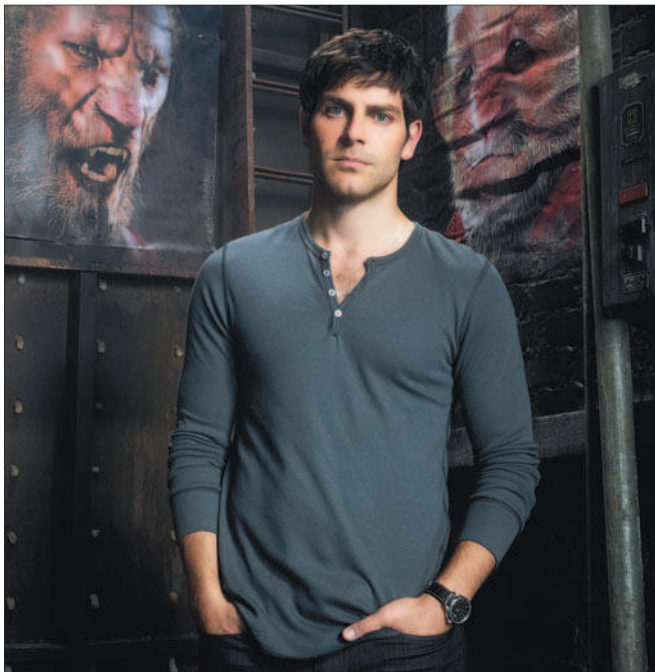
on Thursday, Cruz was to appear in Arizona on Friday before shifting his attention to Utah, which his campaign identified in the strategy memo as a key state in his path forward.

Kasich is also making an aggressive play in Utah, with four public events scheduled there over the next two days. The Ohio governor also unveiled the endorsement of former Utah Gov. Mike Leavitt, who praised "the temperament and the tone" of the Kasich campaign, an indirect jab at Trump.

Kasich has seized on Trump's sometimes violent rhetoric, while an allied group began airing running a TV ad across Utah Thursday that shows a protester being punched in the face at a Trump rally.

With a big delegate lead over Kasich, Cruz remains the Republican best positioned to catch Trump. Even under a best-case scenario, however, Cruz's campaign envisions a slim chance he can win enough delegates to claim the nomination.

Television > Today's highlights



David Giuntoli stars in "Grimm"

Last Man Standing

42 KVEW KATU 8:00 p.m.

Manly man Mike Baxter (Tim Allen) struggles to balance work and family life in another new episode of this comedy. This season, his wife, Vanessa (Nancy Travis), has taken a new job as a science teacher at an underfunded high school.

Captain America: The First Avenger

FX 8:00 p.m.

When Steve Rogers (Chris Evans), a young man eager to serve his country, is told he's unfit for military service, he volunteers for a research project that turns him into a superhero. Rogers uses his power to defend America and her allies.

Say Yes to the Dress

TLC 8:00 p.m.

Back-to-back rebroadcasts bring viewers plenty of Friday night bridal drama. "High School Musical" star Corbin Bleu tags along with his fiancée as she searches for her dream dress. Later, TLC airs back-to-back new episodes.

Bunk'd

DISN 8:00 p.m.

When Emma (Peyton List) and Xander (Kevin G. Quinn) get lost in a cave during an overnight camping trip, they must use their survival skills in this new episode. A spin-off of the series "Jessie," this comedy also stars Skai Jackson and Karan Brar.

Grimm

25 KNDU KGW 9:00 p.m.

As dangerous fairy-tale creatures known as Wesen converge in Portland, Det. Nick Burkhardt (David Giuntoli) and his friends struggle to keep people safe. Burkhardt is a descendent of an elite line of Grimms — crime fighters who battle the supernatural.

Second Chance

11 KFFX KPTV 9:00 p.m.

Pritchard (Rob Kazinsky) and Duval (Tim DeKay) continue their investigation into the mysterious Albert Lin, hoping to uncover who he really is and how he's connected to a slew of murders in this new episode. Dilshad Vadsaria and Adhir Kalyan also star.

Yukon Men

disc 10:00 p.m.

The villagers are faced with a harsh reality when Alaska's largest wildfire ravages Tanana in this new episode. Meanwhile, two young home-steaders set out on a dangerous journey with the intention of starting a new life on the Cosna.

Talk shows

6:00 a.m. 42 KVEW Good Morning Northwest
6:30 a.m. 42 KVEW Good Morning Northwest
7:00 a.m. 19 KEPR KOIN CBS This Morning
7:25 a.m. 25 KNDU KGW Today Show Sophia Loren talks aging beautifully.
7:42 a.m. 42 KVEW KATU Good Morning America
7:51 a.m. WPIX Maury
7:57 a.m. LIFE The Balancing Act
8:00 a.m. WPIX The Jerry Springer Show
9:00 a.m. 25 KNDU KGW Today Show II
9:42 a.m. 42 KVEW Live!
11:00 a.m. 25 KNDU KGW Today Show III
11:42 a.m. KVEW KATU The View
11:51 a.m. WPIX The Home and Family Show
12:00 a.m. WPIX The Home and Family Show
12:30 a.m. 31 KTNW Charlie Rose
12:35 a.m. 25 KNDU KGW Late Night
12:51 a.m. 31 KTNW Charlie Rose
12:57 a.m. 42 KVEW KATU The Chew
1:00 a.m. WPIX The Steve Wilkos Show A

daughter is rushed to the hospital after saying she was touched inappropriately.
1:00 p.m. 59 OPB Charlie Rose
1:05 p.m. WPIX Maury
1:20 p.m. KPTV The Real
1:25 p.m. KOIN 42 KVEW The Doctors
1:30 p.m. KGW FABLife
1:35 p.m. KATU The Meredith Vieira Show
1:40 p.m. 19 KEPR KOIN Dr. Phil
1:45 p.m. The Ellen DeGeneres Show
1:50 p.m. 25 KNDU The Ellen DeGeneres Show
1:55 p.m. 31 KTNW Charlie Rose: The Week
2:00 p.m. HBO Real Time With Bill Maher
2:05 p.m. HBO Real Time With Bill Maher
2:10 p.m. 31 KTNW Charlie Rose
2:15 p.m. 42 KVEW Jimmy Kimmel Live
2:20 p.m. 19 KEPR KOIN The Late Show With Stephen Colbert
2:25 p.m. KGW The Tonight Show
2:30 p.m. KATU Jimmy Fallon
2:35 p.m. HBO Real Time With Bill Maher
2:40 p.m. 31 KTNW Steve Smiley
2:45 p.m. 42 KVEW KATU Late Night
2:50 p.m. 19 KEPR KOIN The Late Show With James Corden

Pendleton East-Oregonian, OR: Talk Shows Mar 18, 2016

Friday Morning

Table with columns for Station, Time, and Program. Includes programs like AgDay, Friends, Pets.TV, The Office, Mother, Law & Order: C.I., etc.

AFTERNOON

Table with columns for Station, Time, and Program. Includes programs like Pat. Court, Divorce, Judge Mathis, The People's Court, etc.

EVENING

Table with columns for Station, Time, and Program. Includes programs like Modern Family, 2 Broke Girls, Sleepy Hollow, etc.

Table with columns for Station, Time, and Program. Includes programs like The First 48, Rocky III, Treehouse Masters, etc.

NIGHT OWL

Table with columns for Station, Time, and Program. Includes programs like AngerM., Loves Ray, S.Colbert, etc.