

CBS Mornings

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7:00:58 a.m. [TEASE]

9 seconds

[ON-SCREEN HEADLINE: DeSantis Announces]

VLADIMIR DUTHIERS: Florida Governor Ron DeSantis announces he's running for president on Twitter, but not without some technical difficulties.

GOVERNOR RON DESANTIS (R-FL) [on *Fox News Tonight*, 05/24/23]: We're really excited with the enthusiasm.

(...)

7:09:13 a.m.

3 minutes and 24 seconds

[ON-SCREEN HEADLINE: DeSantis Campaign Stumbles Out of Gate; Florida Governor's Presidential Bid Gets off to Rocky Start on Twitter]

TONY DOKOUPIL: But we are going to turn now to politics. Who is simply the best in that category, and does love have anything to do with it? We're talking about the presidential campaign of Governor Ron DeSantis of Florida. It is now official, he opened his run for the White House with a Twitter video last night. That part? Pretty traditional. But it was followed by an online event with Twitter CEO Elon Musk and that was plagued by technical issues. It led to mockery from other candidates, including President Biden, and no surprise here, former President Donald Trump. Robert Costa is in Miami covering the campaign for us. You know, it was billed as a great American comeback, those are the words of Ron DeSantis and you could set your clock by it, but you could not set your clock by that Twitter event. Good morning.

ROBERT COSTA: Good morning, Tony, some DeSantis allies — they were disappointed by the technical glitches but they say the governor will plow ahead, underscoring his conservative credentials. And all this scrutiny and the criticism? It is a reminder of just how rough the waters are going to be in this campaign.

DESANTIS: I'm Ron DeSantis, and I'm running for president to lead our great American comeback.

COSTA: Florida Governor Ron DeSantis posted a video making it official, but his launch with Elon Musk on Twitter didn't go as smoothly.

ELON MUSK: We've got a — just a massive number of people online, so it's — servers are straining somewhat.

COSTA: It was marred by technical difficulties when the site kept crashing.

MUSK: I think we're back online here.

COSTA: And after a 20 minute delay —

DESANTIS: If you nominate me, you can set your clock to January 20th, 2025, at high noon because on the west side of the U.S. Capitol, I will be taking the oath of office as the 47th president of the United States. [on *Fox News Tonight*, 095/25/23]: It did break the Twitter space, and so we're really excited with the enthusiasm.

COSTA: His rivals were quick to pounce. On Truth Social, former President Trump called the launch “a disaster” and President Biden tweeted a link to his fundraising site noting, “this link works.” On Twitter, a spokesman for the campaign said DeSantis “literally busted up the internet, Washington is next”, claiming he raised more than \$1 million in the first hour, but DeSantis has a lot of ground to make up. In a new poll, Trump is dominating the Republican field with 53 percent support from likely GOP primary voters. DeSantis trails with 26 percent.

TRUMP CAMPAIGN AD: DeSantis was saved by the endorsement of President Trump.

COSTA: The Trump campaign also attacked DeSantis in new ads, showing how DeSantis previously supported the former President.

TRUMP CAMPAIGN AD: Isn't it time DeSantis remembers how he got to where he is?

COSTA: Other candidates in the GOP field took on DeSantis, one saying he is imitating his former supporter-turned rival.

NIKKI HALEY: The way he speaks, the way his hand gestures are, the fact that he's moved his policies, all of it's copying Trump.

COSTA: DeSantis advisers say many Republicans like Trump, but are also craving a Republican alternative, a conservative who can really win the nomination and be from a new generation. But the spotlight only gets brighter from mere, and those Trump attacks will likely pick up speed, Tony.

DOKOUPIL: Yeah, and Governor DeSantis taking a shot at Donald Trump, saying governing is not about entertainment. It's about results. We'll see what the voters think, Bob, thank you very much.