

ABC's *Good Morning America*

10/22/26

7:00:18 a.m. [TEASE]

4 seconds

MICHAEL STRAHAN: 12 days to go. We break down a critical showdown [sic] across the nation.

(....)

7:00:31 a.m. [TEASE]

15 seconds

[ON-SCREEN HEADLINE: Critical Showdowns; 12 Days to Go]

STRAHAN: Fiery final debates. Overnight, control of the Senate on the line with 12 days to go until the final midterm votes, while President Trump plays defense in South Carolina. What happened when a protester there was punched by a supporter of the President?

(....)

7:03:47 a.m.

2 minutes and 9 seconds

[ON-SCREEN HEADLINE: High-Stakes Debates in Key Midterm States]

GEORGE STEPHANOPOULOS: We're going to begin with the midterm elections. Final votes 12 days away in the midterms. President Trump was on the campaign trail in South Carolina last night as candidates faced off in their final debates in two key states. Jay O'Brien starts us off in Portland, Maine. That is a key Senate race as well. Good morning, Jay

JAY O'BRIEN: George, good morning to you. As you said, we're here on the campaign trail in Maine, home to a key Senate race. Senator Susan Collins up against Democrat Troy Jackson. But other critical races on full display last night in that final sprint to Election Day. This morning, with the midterm elections just 12 days away, a fiery debate in Michigan in a race that could determine control of the Senate. Democrat Abdul el-Sayed facing off against former Republican Congressman Mike Rogers. Rogers, without providing evidence, attempting to link el-Sayed to Islamic extremists.

FORMER CONGRESSMAN MIKE ROGERS (R-MI): Are you for America or are you for these terrorist groups overseas?

O'BRIEN: El-Sayed, who would be the nation's first Muslim senator, calling Rogers line of questioning shameful.

ABDUL EL-SAYED: To bring into a question my commitment to the Constitution is really beneath you. I am proud of America. I'm proud to be American. I'm proud of our Constitution that guarantees all of us the right to pray as we choose to pray.

O'BRIEN: In Kansas, a traditionally deep-red state, has turned into a battleground where Democrat Adam Hamilton looks to unseat Republican Senator Roger Marshall. Hamilton, a pastor, pressing Marshall over his votes to keep the Iran war going.

ADAM HAMILTON: My hope is that, in January, we're going to bring a bill to really force the — the President to bring this war to a conclusion very quickly. Kansans need that. Americans need that. They're crying out for it.

O'BRIEN: But Marshall standing by his votes.

SENATOR ROGER MARSHALL (R-KS): I want this war to be over just as soon as possible, but we cannot let Iran have a nuclear weapon.

O'BRIEN: The President has been traveling to deep GOP strongholds as races tighten nationwide, including South Carolina overnight, stumping for Darline Graham. He was interrupted by protesters at least ten times. At one point, a protester hit by a Trump supporter, an action the President applauded.

TRUMP: That was unbelievable. Is everybody okay? Yeah? Who's the guy that threw that punch? Who threw that punch?

(....)

7:06:52 a.m.
17 seconds

O'BRIEN: And President Trump is campaigning in Iowa tonight, another traditionally Republican state turned battleground. But we've heard from voters here in Maine and across the country who supported President Trump, who now say they're having second thoughts because of the rising cost of living. Michael.

MICHAEL STRAHAN: Yeah. And a lot of people feel that way. Jay, thank you for bringing that to us.

(....)

8:00:21 a.m. [TEASE]
11 seconds

[ON-SCREEN HEADLINE: Critical Showdowns; 12 Days to Go]

STEPHANOPOULOS: Fiery debates overnight control of the Senate on the line, with 12 days to go until the final midterm votes. President Trump playing defense in South Carolina, highlighting a supporter who punched a protester[.]

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8:02:16 a.m.

1 minute and 17 seconds

[ON-SCREEN HEADLINE: 12 Days to Midterms]

STEPHANOPOULOS: We're going to start with a look at the top stories breaking at eight midterm elections. Final votes 12 days away. President Trump was on the campaign trail in South Carolina last night as candidates faced off in debates in two key states. Jay O'Brien starts us off in Portland, Maine, where he's tracking the key races. Good morning, Jay,

[ON-SCREEN HEADLINE: Breaking at 8; High-Stakes Debates in Key Midterm States]

O'BRIEN: George, good morning to you. Again, 12 days out from Election Day now, and we're in Maine on the campaign trail with one of those key Senate races that could decide control of that chamber. Senator Susan Collins versus Democrat Troy Jackson. But other critical races on full display last night in fiery debates in Michigan, Democrat Abdul el-Sayed squaring off against former Republican congressman Mike Rogers. Rogers, without evidence, attempting to link el-Sayed to Islamic extremism. El-Sayed called those questions "shameful." President Trump was on the campaign trail yesterday. He's been barnstorming traditionally Republican states that have seen races tighten. He was campaigning yesterday for Darline Graham, interrupted at least ten times by protests. At one point, a Trump supporter hitting a protester, something the President praised from the podium there. President Trump is back on the campaign trail again tonight in Iowa, another of those traditionally Republican states that's seen a tightening race as we hurtle toward Election Day, Robin.

ROBIN ROBERTS: All right. Our thanks to you, Jay.