

# CLINTON ACQUITTED

## Votes against ouster 55-45, 50-50; 10 in GOP cross over

### Impeachment in the news

Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist:

"Our work as a court of impeachment is now done. I leave you with the hope that our several paths may cross again under happier circumstances."

Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott, R-Miss.:

"We had a constitutional duty to carry out. We did that. I think we did it in a fair way."

Rep. Henry Hyde, R-Ill.:

"We studied the Constitution, reviewed the precedents and proceeded forward according to the law. Five months later, after a trial and much tribulation, I have no regrets. We fulfilled our oath of office to discharge our duty according to the Constitution."

House Minority Leader Richard Gephardt, D-Mo.:

"We have spent nearly 14 months discussing, debating, and investigating a myriad of charges against the president instead of attending to many urgent national issues and pursuing the people's business. We will never regain the time we have lost. I deeply regret how many opportunities to improve the lives of American families have been sacrificed to this vendetta."

Vice President Gore:

"[L]et us all understand that today's vote — rather than being a victory for any person or party — is instead a reaffirmation of the wisdom of our founders and their design of our Constitution."

Sen. Tom Harkin, D-Iowa:

"As the roll was called, as the decision was made, I thought to myself, 'The Constitution lives.' ... I see this vote not so much as a vindication for the president but as a severe indictment for the blatant partisanship of the House of Representatives."

Sen. John Breaux, D-La.:

"Celebrating. Leaving town, Mardi Gras. Somebody's got to do it."

### WEATHER

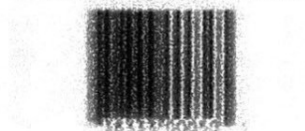
**Little Rock** Mostly sunny skies and warmer conditions over the region today. Winds will be light and variable. Highs will be near 50. Mostly clear and cold tonight. Lows will be in the mid-20s.

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President Clinton pauses Friday during his statement outside the White House after the Senate voted to acquit him. "I want to say again to the American people how profoundly sorry I am for what I said and did to trigger these events and the great burden they have imposed on the Congress and the American people," Clinton said.

### President apologizes for 'burden' on the nation

BY SUSAN ROTH  
ARKANSAS DEMOCRAT-GAZETTE

WASHINGTON — The U.S. Senate acquitted Arkansas native son William Jefferson Clinton on Friday of charges of perjury and obstruction of justice, without even a simple majority of senators voting to convict the president on either article of impeachment.

A wave of relief washed over the Capitol early Friday afternoon as the second presidential impeachment trial in American history drew to a close after more than five weeks of deliberations.

But it has been more than a year since the 42nd president's affair with former White House intern Monica Lewinsky exploded into public view — a year of tension, speculation and bitter partisanship that culminated with December's mostly party-line House votes to impeach Clinton.

In the Senate, as expected, the 45 Democrats stood together to deny the Republican House prosecutors the two-thirds majority required by the Constitution to remove a president from office.

Ten Republican senators voted with the Democrats on the perjury charge for a tally of 55 voting not guilty. Five of those GOP members also declared Clinton not guilty of obstruction of justice, leading to a 50-50 vote.

Arkansas' senators voted with their parties on both articles of impeachment, as expected, with Republican Sen. Tim Hutchinson twice declaring the president guilty and Democratic Sen. Blanche Lincoln twice voting not guilty.

After the votes, a somber, pale Clinton emerged from the White House to tell the American people "how profoundly sorry I am for what I said and did to trigger these events and the great burden they have imposed on the Congress and on the American people."

"This can be, and this must be, See TRIAL, Page 15A

## Clinton calls for 'renewal'

DEMOCRAT-GAZETTE PRESS SERVICES

WASHINGTON — Teetering between remorse and anticipation, President Clinton said Friday that he felt humbled and "profoundly sorry" as he pledged to make the most of his latest second chance.

"I want to say again to the American people how profoundly sorry I am for what I said and did

to trigger these events and the great burden they have imposed on the Congress and on the American people," the president said in an 82-second Rose Garden speech.

But, he added, the outcome of his impeachment trial presented an opportunity. "This can be and this must be a time of reconciliation and renewal for America."

And so began the post-impeachment phase of the Clinton presidency.

Hoping to betray no hint of smugness, the president spent part of Thursday evening in the White House residence working on his five-sentence statement, his aides said. He revised it Friday. See CLINTON, Page 14A

### More on the impeachment trial

**CRIMINAL CHARGES?** Clinton is not out of the woods despite being acquitted by the Senate. 10A

**ARKANSAS** Nearly five years later, investigations by Kenneth Starr still shadow Clinton's friends and former associates. 12A

**HOW THEY VOTED** Tabulated results of the votes of the senators on both charges against Clinton. 15A

**THE POLLS** The president's popularity continued to climb during impeachment trial. 16A



President Clinton's attorneys, David Kendall, Nicole Seligman (center) and Deputy White House Counsel Cheryl Mills, leave the White House on Friday after the Senate voted President Clinton not guilty of the two articles of impeachment. Kendall assisted in Clinton's defense during the trial.

## At peace with votes, senators say

### Blanche Lincoln

### Tim Hutchinson

BY PATRICK HOWE  
ARKANSAS DEMOCRAT-GAZETTE

Arkansas Sen. Blanche Lincoln was sworn into office amid the turmoil of the impeachment trial. She has yet to consider a bill in regular session or to cast a vote unrelated to the impeachment of President Clinton.

While other senators have been able to focus exclusively on the trial and morning committee business, Lincoln has had the added distractions of setting up an office and a staff, maneuvering to get committee postings and moving herself, her physician husband and her twin sons from Arkansas to the Washington area.

Ninety-fifth in Senate seniority, Lincoln did not speak during the closed debate until Thursday, and, unlike many of her peers, she did not reveal what she said in the chamber until the trial ended. See LINCOLN, Page 14A



BY PATRICK HOWE  
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WASHINGTON — Sen. Tim Hutchinson has been reluctant to speak about presidential impeachment. He has discussed the trial occasionally since it moved to the Senate and even appeared on one Sunday talk show to push a censure-like "finding of fact" plan. But the Arkansan has never discussed the merits of the case publicly.

Friday, minutes after the trial ended, he did. From the trial's start Hutchinson has said he did not think it was necessary for Monica Lewinsky to be forced to talk explicitly about her sexual relationship with the president for the trial. That attitude, shared by many other Republicans, led to the denigration of the perjury article, which focuses in part on precisely where Clinton touched Lewinsky. See HUTCHINSON, Page 14A

