

LIVING ROOM TIMES

BINDER UPDATE

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“Earlier today, Congress voted to impeach Yankees first baseman Chuck Knoblauch.” —David Letterman

Impeachment process begins

Open-ended inquiry into President Clinton is approved by all voting House Republicans, 15% of House Democrats

The Votes

Roll Call: Yes 285, No 176

Voting yes: 31 Democrats, 227 Republicans

Voting no: 175 Democrats, 0 Republicans, 1 independent

How Connecticut voted:
Democrats (by district)

Barbara Kennelly, 1st — **no**

Sam Gedjenson, 2nd — **no**

Rosa DeLauro, 3rd — **no**

James Maloney, 5th — **yes**

Republicans (by district)

Chris Shays, 4th — **yes**

Nancy Johnson, 6th — **yes**

Earlier vote: A Democratic proposal for a limited inquiry was defeated, 236-198.

WASHINGTON, D.C. (Reuters)— The House of Representatives on Thursday approved launching a formal impeachment inquiry against President Bill Clinton, only the third such investigation in U.S. history.

The final vote was 258-176 with 31 Democrats joining 227 Republicans to start the first presidential impeachment inquiry since Richard Nixon in the Watergate scandal of 1974. No Republicans voted against the measure, although one did not vote.

The vote followed two hours of heated floor debate and a 236-198 rejection of a Democratic effort to limit the time and scope of the investigation.

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Inside: Lewinsky reportedly offered \$3 million to “tell all”

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The Quotes

“This is not about sexual misconduct any more than Watergate was about a third-rate burglary.” —Henry Hyde (R-Illinois)

“His actions were not ‘inappropriate.’ They were predatory, reckless, [and] breathtakingly arrogant for a man already a defendant in a sexual harassment suit.” —Paul McHale (D-Pennsylvania)

“The global economy is crumbling, and we’re talking about Monica Lewinsky! Saddam Hussein hides weapons, and we’re talking about Monica Lewinsky!... The president betrayed his wife. He did not betray the country. God help this nation if we fail to recognize the difference.” —Robert Wexler (D-Florida)

NHS football aims for winning streak tonight

Fresh off first win since '96, Indians hope to challenge #12 Southington

CCC South standings

TEAM	Overall	Conf.
Southington	3-0-0	1-0-0
Newington	1-2-0	1-0-0
Bristol Eastern	3-0-0	0-0-0
Platt	2-0-1	0-0-0
Maloney	2-1-0	0-0-0
Bristol Central	1-2-0	0-0-0
New Britain	1-2-0	0-1-0
Bulkeley	0-3-0	0-1-0

Tonight: Southington at Newington; Platt at Bristol Central; Bristol Eastern at Bulkeley; New Britain at Maloney

Newington’s football Indians, who have struggled through a 3-40-3 record during five years of frustration, will ride a one-week history of success into tonight’s home opener against Southington.

The Indians won a game last week, 16-8 over Bulkeley, ending a 17-game losing streak. With a win tonight, Newington could start a two-game winning streak.

But Southington, undefeated at 3-0 and ranked #12 in the state according to Tuesday’s *Hartford Courant* coaches’ poll, will likely be a difficult team to upset. Last week, the Blue Knights won by a score of 24-14 over Conard, a team which crushed Newington 41-0 on opening day. Southington has outscored its opponents by a combined 112-50, while Newington has been outscored by 98-16.

What Newington lacks on paper, they may gain back in motivation, however. With a win, the Indians would have consecutive victories and would take sole possession of the CCC South lead—both things they haven’t done in five years.

House votes to begin open-ended impeachment inquiry into Clinton

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The outcome was never in doubt since Republicans control the chamber, but there was a question of whether Democrats would leave the president in great numbers for fear of voter retribution in congressional elections less than a month away.

It appeared Democratic defections were lower than expected.

The House Judiciary Committee was expected to begin hearings later this year on 15 possible charges resulting from Clinton's affair with former White House intern Monica Lewinsky and maybe other charges to be filed later. If the hearings lead to articles of impeachment there would be no House vote until next year.

15% of Democrats vote for open-ended inquiry

WASHINGTON, D.C. (Associated Press)— In the end, 31 of 206 House Democrats strayed from President Clinton's side.

Many of the Democrats who backed the Republican plan for open-ended impeachment hearings framed their votes today as support for open inquiry rather than reflecting any intent to oust the president.

"There will be no closure for the country, for this Congress and for our president without an open hearing," said Rep. Dennis Kucinich, D-Ohio. "Let the president make his case. Give him a chance to clear his name and get back to his job."

"There needs to be an end to this. There needs to be a completion of this. That requires an inquiry."

—James Maloney (D-Connecticut), one of 31 Democrats to vote "yes"

The White House had worked to hold down the number of defectors, and kept to 15 percent the share of Democrats to vote for the GOP-sponsored resolution. The final margin was 258-176.

Rep. Paul McHale of Pennsylvania, the first Democrat to call for Clinton's resignation, said he once had regarded Clinton as "the man from Hope" depicted in the president's 1992 campaign video, and had supported most of his policies.

But McHale said Clinton had brought the impeachment inquiry on himself by misconduct and deceit in the Monica Lewinsky affair.

"We cannot excuse that kind of misconduct because we happen to belong to the same party as the president or agree with him on issues or feel tragically that the removal of the president from

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Murdoch offers Lewinsky \$3,000,000 to "tell all"

LOS ANGELES (Reuters)— Media mogul Rupert Murdoch is courting Monica Lewinsky with a \$3 million TV and book deal to tell about her sexual liaison with President Clinton, the show business newspaper Daily Variety said Thursday.

Citing unnamed sources, Variety said Murdoch's Australia-based media conglomerate, News Corp. Ltd., is luring the out-of-work former White house intern with promises of a prime-time TV special on its Fox TV network followed by a book from its HarperCollins publishing group.

Officials at News Corp.'s New York office referred calls to Fox Broadcasting Corp. in Los Angeles, but a company official was not immediately available to comment. Officials at HarperCollins had no comment.

Variety said talks with Lewinsky and her handlers have been ongoing "for some time," and the lead negotiator for Fox is Chairman and Chief Executive Officer David Hill.

Fox, one of four major TV networks in the United States, is known for offbeat programs like "World's Wildest Police Videos" and last season aired "Breaking the Ice," documenting the bitter and violent rivalry between former ice skating champions Nancy Kerrigan and Tonya Harding with interviews from each.

News Corp. also would likely air a Lewinsky interview around the world through its satellite TV ventures and could publish excerpts among its global newspapers holdings.

Such moves would allow it to defray the cost of a Lewinsky tell-all, and spur profits across a wide swath of business enterprises.

Last week, comedienne Roseanne publicly offered Lewinsky \$1 million to appear on her new TV talk show.

Talk show host and celebrity Oprah Winfrey also has acknowledged having had talks over a Lewinsky appearance, but those discussions broke down over questions of money, Variety reported.

31 of 206 House Democrats “defect,” vote yes

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office would be enormously painful for the United States of America,” McHale said.

Democratic Rep. Jim Moran of Virginia, explaining his yes vote in a morning newspaper opinion piece, said that for Democrats to oppose an impeachment inquiry in lockstep would “unfairly tag our party as wanting to short-circuit what should be a legitimate search for the truth.”

“It seems to me we have nothing to hide, and that the president even at this point has nothing further to hide, and that in fact we should seize this as an opportunity to bring closure to a very sad chapter in American history,” Moran wrote in *The Washington Post*.

The Democratic defectors included Southern conservatives and Northern moderates; some face tough re-election races and others are in no political peril. Still others, like McHale, were simply unhappy with the president's conduct.

The White House was keenly aware of the political danger the vote posed for Democrats in tight re-election races. Clinton aides privately gave some legislators the go-ahead to vote in favor of the Republican-sponsored impeachment resolution.

Most Democrats voted against the GOP proposal and in favor of a Democratic alternative with limits on the scope and time of an inquiry. That measure was rejected on a 236-198 mostly party-line vote.

Among Democrats who went on to support the Republican plan for an open-ended inquiry, many stressed they were simply advocating full investigation, not making a judgment about whether the president

should be removed from office.

“I do believe there's wrongdoing, and an inquiry is the only venue for us to be able to resolve this,” Rep. Robert Weygand of Rhode Island said in advance.

Rep. Tim Roemer, D-Ind., one of the more conservative non-Southerners, said he doubted that the president should be impeached, but added that “many of the charges against the president are significant and warrant an inquiry.”

Rep. Charles Stenholm of Texas, locked in a tough re-election battle, said his vote to proceed with the inquiry “should not be taken as license for anyone to abuse the future inquiry.” Authorizing the next step, he said, “allows us to proceed with the inquiry and move on to the important business of the nation.”

Legislators in tight races couldn't help but think ahead to the November elections, political analysts said.

“The House elections coming up certainly give extra pause for incumbents who are in competitive races,” said American University political scientist James Thurber. “It's a vote of conscience for a lot of people -- but also taking into account their constituents.”

Analyst Stuart Rothenberg noted that because Clinton's relations with congressional Democrats often have been strained, “there are plenty of Democrats on the Hill who wouldn't mind sticking it to the president.”

For all the recent talk in Congress about following the Watergate model in impeachment proceedings, the Nixon inquiry was authorized on a lopsided 410-4 vote, with just four Republicans opposing the resolution. Fewer than two dozen members of that Congress remain in the House today.