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**Valentine's Day**

Readers share memories of their first kiss. Features, 1F



**Winston Cup preview. Sports, 6-7S**

'IMMORAL, DISGRACEFUL, REPREHENSIBLE,' BUT

# Acquitted

Perjury 55-45; obstruction 50-50

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Senate today acquitted President Clinton of obstruction of justice and perjury, rejecting the House prosecutors' demand that the nation's 42nd president be removed from office for concealing an affair with a White House intern.

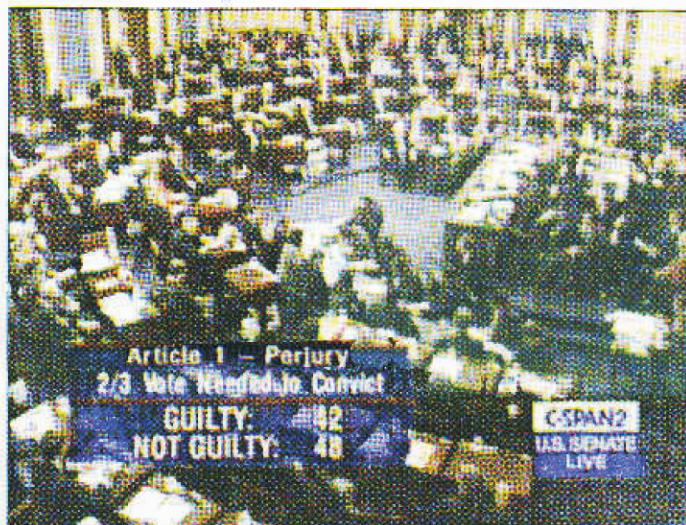
The vote on the impeachment article alleging obstruction was 50-50, far short of the two-thirds required for conviction. Earlier, senators rejected the charge of perjury by a 55-45 vote, as 10 Republicans joined the Democrats even though Democrats have criticized the president for his conduct. Sen. Bob Graham, Democrat from Florida, had said, "The president's self-indulgent actions were immoral, disgraceful, reprehensible. History should — and, I suspect, will — judge that William Jefferson Clinton dishonored himself and the highest office in our American democracy."

A two-thirds majority was required for conviction. Both charges would have required 67 votes for conviction. See CLINTON, Page 5A ▶

**What do you think?**

Today the U.S. Senate voted to acquit President Clinton, ending the second impeachment trial of a president in American history. We'd like to know if you think the Senate did the right thing.

To let us know what you think, call 424-1414, Ext. 1029, or e-mail your opinion to [czuber@news-sentinel.com](mailto:czuber@news-sentinel.com) online. We'll compile the responses we've received by 9 p.m. today and report your comments in Saturday's editions.



The members of the U.S. Senate vote shortly after noon today to acquit President Clinton on the first impeachment charge in this image taken from C-SPAN's Web site.

**Starr still may pursue Clinton**

By Elsa C. Arnett of our Washington bureau  
WASHINGTON — The nation has not heard the last of Kenneth Starr.

Although President Clinton has been cleared by the Senate of the two articles of impeachment, his future remains clouded by the prospect of indictment by the independent counsel while he completes his

"The bottom line is, of course, that impeachment only has to do with removing him from his role as president," said Lucas Morel, assistant professor of political science and history at John Brown. See STARR, Page 11A ▶

## 'Burbs fight back

Whispering Meadows residents send a loud message to suspected drug dealers in their addition.

By Connie Haas Zuber  
Public life editor

When residents of Whispering Meadows in Aboite Township suspected drug dealing in their subdivision, no conviction could be fast enough to ensure their peace of mind.

A determined group of neighbors staged its own war on drugs — and made a difference.

"It's not like I want my name in the paper, but I'm talking, just so people will know it happens everywhere, not just downtown Fort Wayne," said Tricia Rhoades, who lives in the new neighborhood with her husband, Todd, and two children, ages 5 and 6.

"There's usually three or four of us neighbors walking around, and we noticed there was some trading of money and (visitors) bringing containers out and sitting in their cars," she said.

The information she helped gather contributed to the September arrest of neighbor Doug Nowak. The 18-year-old pleaded guilty Nov. 19 to two felony charges, aiding dealing in marijuana, hash oil or hashish and possession of a controlled substance. He received 18-month sentences for each count, which were suspended, and was given 18 months on probation.

Police say that arrest — and the neighborhood's diligence — contributed to the arrest of another drug suspect. And more arrests may be forthcoming.

"It was exciting to see when



Michael White has helped organize his Whispering Meadows neighbors in a fight against drugs in the neighborhood.

By Steve Larson/Staff of The News-Sentinel

**Inside**

- ▶ Police hot line helps fight drug houses with good tips. 3A
- ▶ Prosecutor criticized for handling of case at Night Out discussion. 3A

**Are there drug dealers in your neighborhood?**

Here are 10 tips Whispering Meadows resident Michael White said he had neighborhood residents identify a drug problem:

1. Unusually high volume of car traffic.
2. Short visits, five to 30 minutes.
3. Groups of people loitering, acting nervous and constantly looking around.
4. Cars playing loud music.

5. Busy traffic days.
6. Daytime activity matching after-school schedules.
7. Repeat visitors, regulars (possible delivery cars).
8. Cigarette smoking, scruffy appearance, similar "colors" or gang-like clothing.
9. Point man outside, especially during multiple-car gatherings.
10. People using cellular phones.

## Neighbors watch frighteningly familiar scene

The neighbors notice the front curtains occasionally are pulled back, as if someone in the house is looking to see whether anybody is watching.

While they're wondering who's watching whom, a car slows as it passes the house, then drives on. The neighborhood watchers suspect it's an unmarked police car because they called police when the car arrived in the driveway.

About 10 minutes later, the young man comes out of the house, stashing a small pack-

age in his pocket. He gets in the car and leaves.

They already know the likely script for the rest of the drama.

That car will return, followed in a few minutes by another car. The people sit in the cars for a bit.

They appear to get something from under the seat, then they go into the house.

Within five minutes to 30 minutes, they'll leave again, but not together. And drive off.

And it's quiet, until the next time.



**LOCAL HISTORY:** The News@Sentinel Web site provides local history at its "I Remember Fort Wayne" address at [www.news-sentinel.com/ns/](http://www.news-sentinel.com/ns/) on the Web. E-mail your Fort Wayne memories to [nseditor@fortwayne.inf.net](mailto:nseditor@fortwayne.inf.net) on the Web.



**IN THE SPOTLIGHT**  
**THE REV. BILLY GRAHAM, still alive**  
The Charlotte, N.C. born evangelist is OK, an aide said Thursday in response to a rumor of his death that began at a San Francisco radio station, crossed the country to CBS in New York and ended at Graham's door.

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