

TRUMP'S TRIAL

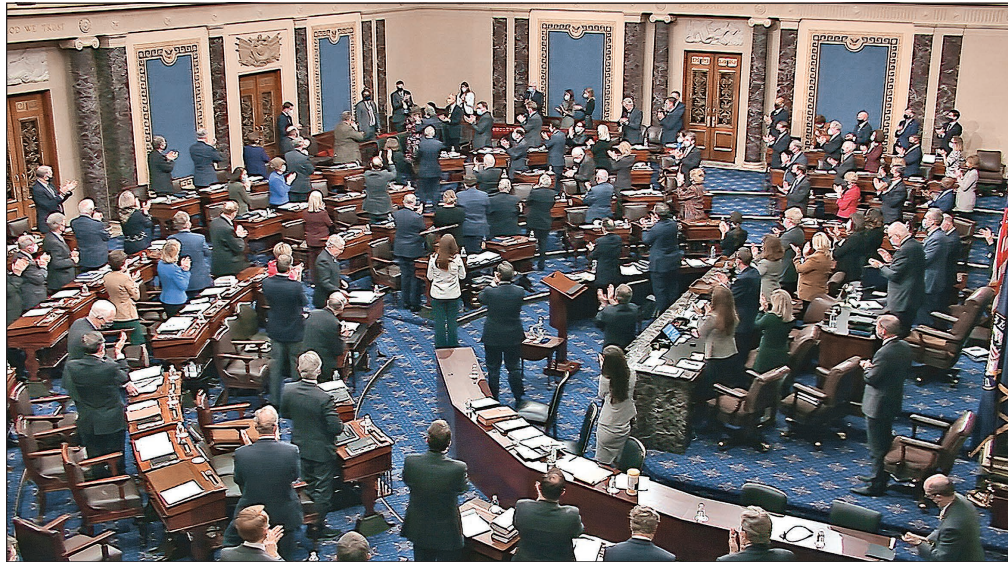
# Lawyers: Impeachment based on 'hatred'

BY ERIC TUCKER, LISA MASCARO AND MARY CLARE JALONICK  
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Donald Trump's impeachment lawyers accused Democrats of waging a campaign of "hatred" against the former president as they sped through their defense of his actions and fiery words before the Jan. 6 insurrection at the U.S. Capitol, hurtling the Senate toward a final vote in his historic trial.

The defense team vigorously denied on Friday that Trump had incited the deadly riot and said his encouragement of followers to "fight like hell" at a rally that preceded it was routine political speech. They played dozens of out-of-context clips showing Democrats, some of them senators now serving as jurors, also telling supporters to "fight," aiming to establish a parallel with Trump's overheated rhetoric.

"This is ordinarily political rhetoric that is virtually indistinguishable from the language that has been used by people across the political spectrum for hundreds of years," declared Trump lawyer Michael van der Veen. "Countless poli-



Senate Television via AP

Senators and staff give a standing ovation Friday to U.S. Capitol Police officer Eugene Goodman, standing in the far back row, shortly before voting to award him the Congressional Gold Medal for his actions during the Jan. 6 riot, as the Senate took a break from the second impeachment trial of former President Donald Trump in the Senate at the U.S. Capitol in Washington.

ticians have spoken of fighting for our principles."

But the presentation blurred the difference between general encouragement to battle for causes and Trump's fight against officially accepted national election results. The defeated president was telling his supporters to fight on after ev-

ery state had verified its results, after the Electoral College had affirmed them and after nearly every election lawsuit filed by Trump and his allies had been rejected in court.

The case is speeding toward a vote and likely acquittal, perhaps as soon as Saturday, with the Senate evenly divided

between Democrats and Republicans and a two-thirds majority required for conviction. Trump's lawyers made an abbreviated presentation that used less than three of their allotted 16 hours.

Their quick pivot to the Democrats' own words deflected from the central ques-

tion of the trial — whether Trump incited the assault on the Capitol — and instead aimed to place impeachment managers and Trump adversaries on the defensive.

His lawyers contended he was merely telling his rally crowd to support primary challenges against his adversaries and to press for sweeping election reform.

After a two-day effort by Democrats to sync up Trump's words to the violence that followed, including through raw and emotive video footage, defense lawyers suggested that Democrats have typically engaged in the same overheated rhetoric as Trump.

But in trying to draw that equivalency, the defenders minimized Trump's months-long efforts to undermine the election results and his urging of followers to do the same. Democrats say that long campaign, rooted in a "big lie," laid the groundwork for the mob that assembled outside the Capitol and stormed inside. Five people died.

On Friday, as defense lawyers repeated their own videos over and over, some Demo-

crats chuckled and whispered among themselves as many of their faces flashed on the screen. Some passed notes. Connecticut Sen. Richard Blumenthal threw up his hands, apparently amused, when his face appeared. Minnesota Sen. Amy Klobuchar rolled her eyes. Most Republicans watched intently.

Trump's defenders told senators that Trump was entitled to dispute the 2020 election results and that his doing so did not amount to inciting the violence.

They sought to turn the tables on prosecutors by likening the Democrats' questioning of the legitimacy of Trump's 2016 win to his challenge of his election loss.

The defense team did not dispute the horror of the violence, painstakingly reconstructed by impeachment managers earlier in the week, but said it had been carried out by people who had "hijacked" what was supposed to be a peaceful event and had planned violence before Trump had spoken.

"You can't incite what was going to happen," he said.

## Sen. Cassidy seen holding draft statement indicating support for acquittal

Senator said he has not made up his mind

BY MIKE DEBONIS  
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — A Republican senator who expressed doubts about former president Donald Trump's impeachment defense team and suggested he might ultimately vote to convict him was seen in the Capitol on Friday holding the draft of a statement indicating he planned to

acquitt Trump. Sen. Bill Cassidy, R-La., told reporters Tuesday that "one side is doing a great job and the other side is doing a terrible job" just moments after breaking with most Republicans to confirm the constitutionality of trying an ex-president on impeachment charges — buoying hopes of House managers that at least some GOP votes could be shifted.

On Friday, however, Cassidy held a document in public view that appeared to indicate he is ready to ac-



Sen. Bill Cassidy, R-La., holds documents in the Senate Reception Room on Friday.

Jabin Botsford/Washington Post/The Washington Post

quit Trump. "The events of January 6 are a stain on our country. President Trump and

many others certainly contributed to the environment. The former president did engage in excessive and unnecessary rhetoric before and after the election," the draft statement said in part. "However, the House Managers did not connect the dots to show President Trump knew that the attack on the Capitol was going to be violent and result in the loss of life."

But Cassidy told reporters he remained undecided and said the draft statement was not indicative of any final decision: "If I flipped the page, you would have had the one going the other way," he said.

Leaving the Senate Friday evening, Cassidy said he planned to review his three legal pads' worth of notes and write out his thoughts before making a final decision.

"I find when you write your thoughts out, you establish clarity," he said.

## CENTRAL OREGON WORSHIP DIRECTORY

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St. John 20:21-23, The Augsburg Confession, Article XXVIII.8-9, 10."</p> <p><b>Sunday the 14th</b></p> <p>"Transfiguration Shows that Jesus is the Son of God and the Savior of All Men." St. Mark 9:7.</p> <p>Because Governor Brown has approved Deschutes County entering Phase II of the reopening, allowing faith gatherings of 25 or less, Public Services have resumed. Only the Divine Service at 11 AM will be offered. There will be no Sunday School, other Services, or refreshments served until further notice.</p> <p>The Rev. Willis C. Jenson, Pastor 8286 11th Street, Terrebonne. <a href="http://www.concordiamlms.com">http://www.concordiamlms.com</a> Facebook: Concordia Lutheran Mission Phone: 541-325-6773</p> <p><b>Zion Lutheran Church ELCA</b> Serving the Heart of Redmond</p> <p><b>Join us for Sunday Worship Services online at <a href="http://www.zionrdm.com">www.zionrdm.com</a></b></p> <p>We miss being together but we look toward the time when we can worship in person again!</p> <p>Until then, join us for worship any time during the week through our website. And we want to pray for you and your concerns! Email to <a href="mailto:pastor@zionrdm.com">pastor@zionrdm.com</a> and your request will be passed on to our prayer warriors! Blessings to you!</p> <p>1113 SW Black Butte Blvd. Redmond, OR 97756, 541-923-7466 Pastor Eric Burtness, <a href="http://www.zionrdm.com">www.zionrdm.com</a></p>	<p><b>St. Francis Of Assisi Roman Catholic Church</b> Rev. 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	<p><b>Christian Science</b></p> <p><b>First Church of Christ, Scientist</b> <a href="mailto:fccsbend@gmail.com">fccsbend@gmail.com</a></p> <p>We invite you to join our online church services at 10:00 am Sundays and 7:30 pm Wednesdays, via Zoom.</p> <p>In person services soon in our new location on the corner of 10th NE and Greenwood.</p> <p><b>For more information, visit our website:</b> <a href="http://ChristianScienceChurchBend.org">ChristianScienceChurchBend.org</a> or email our Church Clerk at <a href="mailto:fccsbend@gmail.com">fccsbend@gmail.com</a></p>	<p><b>Advertise Your Church Here!</b></p> <p>Only \$30.00 each week, publishes every Saturday.</p> <p>Discounted Contract Rates Available!</p> <p>For more information Contact Rachel Liening 541-617-7823 or <a href="mailto:rliening@bendbulletin.com">rliening@bendbulletin.com</a></p> <p>Hours: 10am-3pm Mon-Fri</p>	<p><b>Unitarian Universalists</b></p> <p><b>UNITARIAN UNIVERSALISTS OF CENTRAL OREGON</b> "Diverse Beliefs, One Fellowship" We are a Welcoming Congregation</p> <p>February 14, 2021 "Love Lessons in the Peace Corps"</p> <p>On this lay-led Valentine's Day service you'll hear from people in our congregation who spent time in the Peace Corps — where they fell in love with service, in love with those they served, and, in a couple of cases, in love with the person with whom they'd spend the rest of their lives. Their stories will touch your heart.</p> <p>To join us on Sunday via Zoom, click on the image at <a href="http://www.uufco.org">www.uufco.org</a> 9:30 a.m. chat, 9:45 a.m. service</p> <p>ASL interpretation provided Email <a href="mailto:dre@uufco.org">dre@uufco.org</a> for info about children and youth classes. Bend, Oregon   541-385-3908</p>		