LNP GOES RED TO RAISE AWARENESS FOR AMERICAN HEART MONTH, IN PARTNERSHIP WITH



INCITEMENT OF 57-43



ACQUITTED, AGAIN

- ▶ LAWMAKERS AND POLITICAL FIGURES REACT TO HISTORIC VOTE, PAGE A6
 - ▶ INQUIRIES INTO THE CAPITOL RIOTS LIKELY TO BE ONGOING, PAGE A7



President Donald Trump attends a Medal of Freedom presentation at the White House in Washington on Dec. 7. Even though the Senate voted to acquit Trump at his second impeachment trial, much remains to be seen as to his political future. Below, Trump supporters wave a flag in Palm Beach, Fla., as Trump and first lady Melania Trump travel to his Mar-a-Lago resort Jan. 20.

Trump denounced but not convicted

LISA MASCARO, ERIC TUCKER AND MARY CLARE JALONICK ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON - Donald Trump was acquitted Saturday of inciting the horrific attack on the U.S. Capitol, concluding a historic impeachment trial that spared him the first-ever conviction of a current or former U.S. president but exposed the fragility of America's democratic traditions and left a divided nation to come to terms with the violence sparked by his defeated presidency.

Barely a month since the deadly Jan. 6 riot that stunned the world, the Senate convened for a rare weekend session to deliver its verdict, voting while armed National Guard troops continued to stand their posts outside the iconic building.

The quick trial, the nation's

first of a former president, showed in raw and emotional detail how perilously close the invaders had come to destroying the nation's deep tradition of a peaceful transfer of presidential power after Trump had refused to concede the election. Rallying outside the White House, he unleashed a mob of supporters to "fight like hell" for him at the Capitol just as Congress was certifying Democrat Joe Biden's victory. As hundreds stormed the building, some in tactical gear engaging in bloody combat with police, lawmakers fled for their lives. Five people died.

The verdict, on a vote of 57-43, is all but certain to influence not only the former president's political future but that of the senators sworn to deliver impartial justice as jurors. Seven Republicans joined all Democrats to ACQUITTAL, page A6



WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR TRUMP?

In his second impeachment trial, former President Donald Trump risked conviction on a charge of inciting insurrection and senators barring him from seeking office again.

Fifty-seven senators voted to convict, below the two-thirds threshold needed.

With the acquittal, there is formally nothing stopping him from running again. However, an investigation into the Jan. 6 riots by the Justice Department threatens to uncover details that could batter Trump's reputation.

After trial, Trump still dominant force in GOP

STEVE PEOPLES AP NATIONAL POLITICAL WRITER

NEW YORK — The Republican Party still

belongs to Donald Trump.

After he incited a deadly riot at the U.S. Capitol last month, the GOP considered purging the norm-shattering former president. But in the end, only seven of 50 Senate Republicans voted to convict Trump in his historic second impeachment trial on Sat-

For Trump's loyalists, the acquittal offers a vindication of sorts and a fresh connection to the former president's fiery base. And for Trump's GOP antagonists, it marks another alarming sign that the party is lurching further in a dangerous direction with little desire to reconnect with the moderates, women and college-educated voters Trump alienated.

Ultimately, the resolution of the impeachment trial brings into clear relief a divide in the GOP that party leaders, donors and voters will have to navigate as they try to regain control of Congress next year and aim to retake the White House in 2024.

TRUMP, page A7

In the months ahead I have much to share with you, and I look forward to continuing our incredible journey together to achieve American greatness for all of our people. - former President

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