House Democrats impeach Trump

Trump warns Democrats will pay next November

Newly impeached President Trump said Democrats were on a “nuclear march” with their historic vote Wednesday night, as his campaign team planned to make Democrats pay at the polls in 2020.

Addressing supporters at a campaign rally in Battle Creek, Michigan, while the House was impeaching him back in Washington, Mr. Trump served notice that his status as an impeached president running for reelection will haunt his Democratic opponents at the ballot box.

“This lawsless, partisan impeachment is a political suicide march for the Demo- cratic Party,” Mr. Trump declared, noting his rise in approval ratings. “Have you seen my polls in the last four weeks?”

Clearly unfazed by the record-support port, Mr. Trump also told his audience, “It doesn’t really feel like we’re being impeached.”

Shortly after the House voted to impeach a president for only the third time in history, a campaign aide brought a sign to the front of the stage to show Mr. Trump the vote tally while he was in the midst of his speech.

“Every single Republican voted for us,” Mr. Trump said, reacting to his im- peachment in real-time. “So we had 197... We didn’t lose one Republican vote.”

Republicans hold line in partisan vote; no Senate will convict

House Democrats on Wednesday achieved their goal of affixing a black mark to President Trump’s tenure in the White House, impeaching him in a historic and yet anti-climactic party-line vote.

The Democrats passed two articles of impeachment, the first for abuse of power and the second for obstructing Congress.

The 230-197 vote on the first article and 229-198 vote on the second article branded Mr. Trump as the first president to suffer that indignity in a purely partisan vote. The bipartisan vote was in opposition to impeach- ment, with two Democrats voting against the article accusing Mr. Trump of abuse of power and three Democrats voting against the article accusing him of obstructing Congress.

Democratic Reps. Jefferson Van Drew of New Jersey and Collin Peterson of Minnesota joined the Republicans in opposing both measures. Mr. Van Drew has announced that he plans to switch to the Republican Party over the impeachment episode. Rep. Jared Golden, Maine Democrat, joined them in opposing the second article also.

The chamber’s only independent, Rep. Justin Amash of Michigan, voted for impeachment on both counts. He quit the GOP earlier this year in protest of Mr. Trump.

In a tweet, 2020 Democratic presidential hopeful Rep. Tulsi Gabbard of Hawaii voted “Present” for both articles.

As House voted, Mr. Trump told a campaign rally in Battle Creek, Michigan, that “it doesn’t really feel like we’re being impeached.”

“We did nothing wrong,” he said of impeachment.

“And we have tremendous support in the
country,” he said.

A federal appeals court ruled Wednesday that Obama’s individual mandate runs afoul of the Constitution because it no longer a tax follow- ing President Trump’s decision to rearrange his

HEALTH CARE

Appeals court sends individual mandate back to lower bench

By Alex Sheen and Tim Holmes Jr.

A federal appeals court ruled Wednesday that Obama’s individual mandate runs afoul of the Constitution because it no longer a tax following President Trump’s decision to rearrange his predecessor’s program.

But the 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals, in a 2-1 decision, put off a thorny question — whether other parts of the Affordable Care Act can still stand

REBUTTING CLAIMS: Department of Justice Inspector General Michael E. Horowitz said his report did not clear the FBI.

SECURITY

U.S. rocket launch may have drawn Russian ship’s notice

By Bas Bruns

The Russian intelligence-gathering vessel that was operating erratically off the East Coast this week may have tuned its latest leap into waters close to the United States with the Monday launch in Florida of a new commercial communications satellite by the private company SpaceX.

In the Washington Times and other news out the reported this week, the Coast Guard on Sunday issued a warning that the Russian spy ship Viktor Leonov was operating in “unsafe” manner 12 miles off the coast of Georgia and South Carolina. The warning came in response to reports the ship was transiting in US waters without running lights and making “crude movements.”

The Coast Guard cutter Cuarto was near the Leonov to use extreme caution.

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