

# Impeachment may not be in the cards for Clinton

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — A Democrat on the House Judiciary Committee predicted Saturday that the House will dispense with the Monica Lewinsky matter before Christmas — and President Clinton could emerge unpunished.

Rep. Martin Meehan, D-Mass., said conservative Republicans are likely to block any compromise that would censure the president, while liberal Democrats will lead opposition to impeachment.

With 218 votes needed to take either action, and Republicans holding 228 votes and the Democrats 206, a relatively small bloc on either side could produce a stalemate.

"It's ironic that the president could come out of this process with no admonishment of his behavior at all," said Meehan, who wants the House to censure Clinton for his relationship with Lewinsky and subsequent attempts to cover it up.

Some of Meehan's statements echoed those of Rep. Peter King, R-N.Y., who predicted anew Saturday that 15-20 of his Republican colleagues are ready to vote against impeachment.

"That's rock hard," King said. "It can go as high as 35 or 40."

King said about half share his conviction that Clinton's lies to the grand jury investigating his affair with Lewinsky do not add up to an impeachable crime.

"The others are uncertain, but they're very impressed by the election results," he said. In the Nov. 3 election, the Republicans suffered a net loss of five seats in the

House.

In midterm elections, the party opposite the sitting president has historically averaged a gain of 27 seats.

Any outcome short of impeachment is sure to please the White House.

Friday, aides said some emissaries of Clinton had begun to reach out and explore alternatives for ending the impeachment inquiry.

Meehan said he expects the House Judiciary Committee to reconvene the week of Dec. 7 and the Republican-dominated panel to pass at least one article of impeachment.

He said it will most likely allege that Clinton lied to the

**"It's ironic that the president could come out of this process with no admonishment of his behavior at all."**

**Rep. Martin Meehan**  
D-Mass.

grand jury.

When the matter then moves to the full House, perhaps the following week, it will stall, Meehan predicted.

If King's estimate is correct, Republican defections will stymie any effort to impeach the president.

As for the lesser sanction of censure, Meehan said, "There is a sizable number of Democrats who think the president has been through enough and shouldn't be subjected to any other punishment by the House."

Such a stalemate could leave Clinton without formal punishment.

The next House speaker, Rep. Bob Livingston, R-La., has made clear he wants the Lewinsky matter put to rest before Congress reconvenes in January.

## Cultural Kaleidoscope



Wade Thomson — Alligator

Rika Sakate, a Japanese university exchange student, dances the Sakira-Sakira "Cherry Blossom" dance Friday evening in the Reitz Union Ballrooms part of Asian Kaleidoscope Month.

**SAPP'S PAWN & GUN ARCHERY**  
GOLF CLUBS  
111 NW 6th St. 373-5655

**20% OFF** Any Alteration  
Same Day Service / No Extra Charge  
**NINA'S** Since 1972  
Professional Alterations & Tailoring  
1636 W. University Ave (Upstairs) 375-6462

March of Dimes  
**WalkAmerica**  
**Walk for Someone you love**  
Your son, your granddaughter, a pregnant friend. Who is the special someone you'll be walking for?  
Call your local March of Dimes chapter or 1-800-525-WALK.  
Join Our Campaign for Healthier Babies

**PLAY IT AGAIN SPORTS**

**IN-LINE**  
Rollerblade SKYBLADE ABT  
ABEC 3  
74 mm wheels  
Reg. \$160 **89.99**

**GOLF**  
KING Cobra Titanium Wood  
Men's & Ladies  
Graphite Shaft  
Reg. \$280 **139.99**

**EXERCISE**  
300 lb. OLYMPIC SET  
Reg. \$160 **139.99**

**\$5 OFF**  
any purchase of \$25 or more  
exp. 12-4-98

**\$10 OFF**  
any purchase of \$50 or more  
exp. 12-4-98

**\$15 OFF**  
any purchase of \$75 or more  
exp. 12-4-98

Not valid with any other discount or sale merchandise. Not valid with prior sales or layaways. Only one coupon per customer.  
**3425 W. University Ave. 377-7666**  
**M-F 10-8pm Sat 9-7pm Sun 12-6pm**

**Attention PR Majors!**



**READY TO GET A JUMP ON YOUR CAREER?**

THE ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF

the independent florida  
**alligator**

is looking for interns.  
Interested?

Please send a resume to Stacey Ledvina at  
*The Independent Florida Alligator*,  
P.O. Box 14257, Gainesville, FL 32604-2257  
by Nov 30. No phone calls please!