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## Emotional Homecoming For Senator Dole

By SCOTT SEIRER  
Of The News Staff

RUSSELL — Sen. Robert Dole mixed wit with tears in an emotionally-charged homecoming at Russell Friday afternoon.

"This is a normal rally crowd when I come home," he told the crowd of thousands. Dole began to thank that crowd for years of political support when he was over-

"If I've had any success, it's because of the people here," he said.

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tears halted his words. The crowd cheered as he wept for several seconds.

The second-term Kansas

Senator and President Gerald Ford mingled with the crowd during the newly-designated Republican ticket's first stop since the convention.

"Bob asked for one concession when I called him on the phone to ask him to be my runningmate. I said 'Well, don't hesitate too long,'" Ford told the crowd.

"He said 'Will you come to Russell, Kansas, tomorrow'

and I said yes. So, here we are."

Dole added, "We start our campaign in the heartland of America and that's why we're here today."

Dole's short speech described how he was picked as the GOP vice-presidential candidate.

"The President called me yesterday morning and asked if I wanted to be on the ticket. I thought about it one second and said yes," Dole said.

The Senator said he was "just passing through town" during the just-completed GOP National Convention.

While doing so, Dole said, he "saw everybody's list but the President's," and my name wasn't on most of them.

"I never believed I would be in this position... I really don't believe it yet today," he said. "It was a surprise."

Ford said he chose Dole as his runningmate because, "We have to bring Washington, D.C. and the local government together. Dole understands the problems of local communities."

"Bob is the kind of person who has personal contact with people," the President said.

Ford told the thousands of Western Kansans gathered on the Russell County Courthouse lawn, "You not only produce cattle and wheat and energy, but, doggone it, you also produce great people," referring to Dole.

The President predicted it would be "a tough campaign."

"We'll stick with you," he said. "We need your help."

"We'll never make hard work ... a pawn in international diplomacy," Ford said.

"The farmers of America must get a fair price in the free market system."

"This administration will have no embargoes, period," Ford said.

Ford and Dole arrived in Russell shortly after noon after boarding helicopters in Salina. Some 5,000 persons had greeted the pair when Air Force One landed there.



### Second Billing

Russell residents were excited about President Ford's Friday visit to their town but they were

more excited about the appearance of one of their own on the ticket as the banner indicates.

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### Opinion

#### Dole's prospects

All Kansans are basking in the glow of Gerald Ford's decision to tab a Kansan for a running mate.

We wonder, however, whether it will be worth it.

Bob Dole's place on the ticket can mean only one thing: a mean campaign.

This isn't a giggling concern. If anything, Ford's strategists have made it clear in recent days that the running mate has to be someone who can press the attack. Dole can.

And, in an interesting bit of self-revelation a couple of weeks ago, he proclaimed himself to be one who can "pitch it out." No Kansan doubts it.

Obviously, that doesn't have to be an undesirable trait. But the peculiar history of GOP running mates since 1952 has included an excess measure of muck — witness the 1950s Richard Nixon and the whole of Spiro Agnew's national political life.

We hope Dole won't be bur-

dened by that history, but it seems sensible to recognize its true dimensions.

For his predecessors in this slot, the requirements of keeping the GOP's wild wing in line with the top of the ticket have had distressing results.

The right laid claim to the tongue — if not the body and soul — of the candidate, and then the office. Nelson Rockefeller didn't fit. He was dumped.

Some of the Topeka press corps and others had difficulty seeing it, but we saw signs of another Dole emerging in the past couple of years: less strident than in the past, with perhaps a touch more compassion for the "cheats and chisellers" and other bogymen with which the Reaganite Republicans seem so obsessed.

We liked the emerging Dole. We hope the process continues, but now we would never lay odds on the possibilities it will.

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## Dole Planning No 'Personal' Attacks

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (UPI) — Republican vice presidential nominee Robert Dole promised Friday that he and President Ford would not engage in a "personal" campaign against the Carter-Mondale ticket this fall.

The Kansas senator, in an interview on ABC television the morning after Ford selected him to be his running mate, said the GOP campaign would be "very lofty" and centered on the economy, and would not involve personal attacks on the Democratic nominees, presidential candidate Jimmy Carter and vice presidential candidate Sen. Walter Mondale of Minnesota.

"We don't intend to be personal," Dole said. "I have the highest regard for Jimmy Carter and Sen. Mondale." Dole accompanied Ford to a breakfast with the Republican National Committee and arranged to have Ford go with him to a Bob Dole Day rally at his hometown of Russell, Kan., before returning to Washington later in the day.

Despite the strain of the day and a right eye menacingly bloodshot from a broken blood vessel suffered early this tumultuous week, Dole was in good spirits when he returned

from the closing session of the GOP convention early Friday. Asked to assess the state of the GOP entering the fall campaign, he said, "Super. That describes it. It's in great shape. It was the best speech I ever heard President Ford give," he said.

Referring to Ronald Reagan's appearance on the podium as a gesture of unity, before the convention adjourned, Dole — known in Washington and Kansas for his quotability and wit — said, "I won't say it's downhill from now on — but the slope isn't so bad."

Picked for his farm appeal, conservative record and his campaigning ability, Dole told the delegates in his acceptance speech Republicans ought not to be "deterred or discomfited" by those who interpret the long and hard-fought primary campaign as a sign of division in Republican ranks.

Dole's name — "a four-letter word you can use" — was placed in nomination by Vice President Nelson Rockefeller, longtime leader of the party's liberal wing, and seconded by Nevada Sen. Paul Laxalt, Reagan's national campaign chairman.

Rockefeller said Dole "can take the heat" of a national campaign. "And if you ask those of us who really know him, he can not only take it — believe us, he can really dole it out."

There was a report Ford couldn't find his nominee, and a Dole spokesman confirmed that Ford placed his call at 10:18 a.m. CDT and did not get through until 10:31, apparently because Dole was not in the room Ford thought he was in.

His room was just down the hall from another more prominent contender and Dole said, "I thought the President called John Connally and got the wrong number."

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## Dole Able, Fearless: Carlson

By JOHN MARSHALL  
Kansas Correspondent

CONCORDIA, (INS) — Former Sen. Frank Carlson, Kansas republican statesman and political veteran, says he doubts Bob Dole was eager to campaign for the first time in 1988 for the U.S. Senate.

But Dole ran, defeated Bill Robinson, and left congress to succeed Carlson in the Senate.

"I had told Bob that I was retiring, visited with him and said it looked like the field would be open," Carlson recalls. "He was in a position to run after three terms in the U.S. House, but I don't think he was eager. He was comfortable in the House."

Carlson was elected to Congress in 1934 and served until 1947, when he was elected governor. In 1950 he was elected to the U.S. senate and served there 18 years. Carlson is the only Kansan elected to all three offices, and is also a former State Representative.

"I think President Ford made an excellent choice in Bob Dole. But he's a hard worker and because of that I could be concerned about his health," Carlson said.

Dole was critically wounded in Italy during World War II and was hospitalized for 39 months. His right arm and hand were crippled.

"This will be the roughest campaign of his life," Carlson said.

He said he was surprised Dole was picked, but happy he is on the ticket.

"I had a feeling it would be Howard Baker or William Scranton. But the President didn't ask me. Bob Dole is a good man, hard worker, able and fearless."

"He will be especially effective in areas regarding farm policy. Ford has lost strength in the rural areas because of the grain embargo."

Dole and Carlson were close

friends while they served at Washington — Dole in the House of Representatives, Carlson in the Senate. They have been close since, but have not discussed Dole's candidacy.

Convention notes: The secret service guards a vice presidential candidate and his wife incredibly close but Thursday afternoon, the rest of the family was left unwatched. Reporters came a-m-e-n and photographers crowded around the lunch table to question Dole's mother, Bina, 73, his daughter Robin, 22, a brother and sister and brother-in-law.

Later it was time to leave. The path was crowded. Photographers and reporters. "Where are the guards when you need them?" Dole's brother, Ken, mumbled.

And where is Robin's car? "I have a car around here, somewhere," Robin was saying Thursday afternoon in the lobby of the Holiday Inn Trademart where the family, except Senator and Mrs. Dole, are staying.

"I just got an apartment at Alexandria, Va., and came here for the convention. Well, I had a friend drive my car (1973 Toyota) to Kansas so I could trade it in. But nobody's contacted me yet. You'd think they'd know where I am."

Gov. Robert Bennett Thursday accepted a bright red, small tyrolian hat decorated with Ford-Dole buttons, a gift of the Kansas

Capitol press corps.

"But it looks like it was made for a pointed head," Bennett said.

"If the hat fits, wear it," smiled UPIS John Braden. The crowd roared.

"We're going to miss you at Topeka, John," the governor quipped.

More roars.

Is there a bit of Dooking in the Dole family?

The Senator's brother-in-law, Tom Steele of Derby, was told by several surprised reporters that his voice was remarkably similar to the voice of Former Kansas Gov. Robert Docking, A Democrat. And it does.

"Last time you'll ever get an interview," Tom Laughed. Sunflower seeds will rival

peanuts in the Ford-Dole-Carter-Mondale vegetable war.

Sunflowers have become so popular at Kansas City that Kansas delegate Carolyn Tillotson and other women delegates are on a felt hunt. Folks from across the country have snatched up their homemade sunflower lapel tags — and the Kansans are after brown and yellow felt to make more.

A disgruntled Kansas Newspaper reporter had worked a tough convention schedule and planned a long relaxed weekend after adjournment.

The Dole development changed that.

"It's all Bill Roy's fault," he said.