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THIS IS ME — Bob Dole noted on this picture when he mailed it to his parents during World War II. Dole, third from the right, recently commissioned as a second lieutenant in the Army, had just arrived for duty in Northern Italy. Enlisting in December, 1942, Dole was called to active service in 1943. After medical corps training, engineering training, antitank gunnery training and officer candidate school, he wound up in a replacement depot in Italy. On Feb. 25, 1945, he was assigned to I Company, 3rd Battalion, 85th Mountain Regiment of the 10th Mountain Division. The division had originally been packed with skiing enthusiasts, future Olympic athletes and Ivy League elites. Specially trained for years in Alpine and Nordic Skiing, climbing and fighting, they would make the

final assault on formidable German defenses ranged across the peaks and crests of Northern Italy's Apennines. Near the end of the war the Army made a Kansan who had grown to young manhood without ever seeing a mountain a platoon leader for crack mountain troops. I Company had to take Hill 913. Dole led his platoon out of a thick hedgerow and into a clearing below the hill. Automatic weapons fire raked the line. Men fell. Others scrambled for shell holes, any cover they could find. Dole squirmed out and retrieved his fallen radioman. Then he moved boldly out, as he was supposed to, into the clearing, toward the unseen enemy. He did not get far. A shell, or a mortar round, had struck him in the right shoulder, which seemed to explode. For eight hours Dole lay unable to move.



FAMILY MEMBERS and guests gather at the Dole home here on Aug. 8, 1980, for a television commercial. (Staff Photo)

Hatch Puts Dole Ahead of Bush Mrs. Dole Was Impressive

By The Denver Post
 The 1988 presidential election is "George Bush's to lose, Robert Dole's to win," Sen. Orrin Hatch, R-Utah, said recently in Denver. In remarks made after a speech during a symposium on generic drugs hosted by Pharmaceutical Basics, Inc., of Denver, Hatch said that although Vice-President Bush has "the best resume in Washington, D.C., he is a real class guy and has never had a scandal attached to him. He can't win the presidency, particularly if the Democrats nominate a charismatic candidate." Bush will have a very difficult time overcoming the "Yale, preppy image," Hatch said. Hatch said he regretted the recent announcement by Sen. Paul Laxalt that the Nevada senator was withdrawing from the race for the Republican nomination, because Laxalt was President Reagan's closest friend and "would have been the one to carry on the Reagan revolution." However, Hatch predicted, Laxalt would continue to be "the number one potential for vice-president, no matter who wins the nomination." "Kansas Senator Dole, however, would scare the Russians to death," said Hatch, and has the best chance of election. "And electability is the biggest issue for Republicans to consider when making their nomination next year."

By ROBERT K. BECK
 Publisher Emeritus
 Ag Express
 and Daily Iowegian
 and Citizen
 Sept. 10, 1987

CENTERVILLE, Iowa — One of the advantages of being an Iowan is that you can be walking down the street and bump into a possible future President of the United States.

Ronald Reagan has never been to Centerville albeit he was familiar with the Big Reds during his WHO radio sports announcing days. Reagan didn't show up in these parts in 1980 when the GOP contention for the big prize was hot and heavy, but George Bush did. And it was Bush who carried the day. I recall Bush was at a GOP gathering at J&K's. So was Reagan's oldest son, albeit he didn't receive all that much attention. At any rate, Bush's unexpected Iowa win stirred Reagan into action in New Hampshire, where Reagan turned the tables on Bush and then went on to gain the GOP nomination.

Since Iowa is an important first test, you're seeing a lot of the candidates: Week before last it was Democrat, former Gov. Bruce Babbitt of Arizona. If the candidate proper doesn't appear, the wife or son or a first cousin or somebody with family connections usually shows.

Last week it was Elizabeth Dole, wife of Senator Bob Dole. The senator is an unannounced but sure-fire Republican contender for the presidential nomination.

There might be those who would say that seeing and hearing Mrs. Dole is even a better thing than hearing and seeing the senator himself. She has a certain flair, political acumen, I guess you call it. She is very good looking and converses in a charming and informal way.

She was in Centerville saying, "I appreciate the chance to share things with you so that you'll know who Bob Dole is." Then she goes on to tell you just why her husband is the man for the job of the presidency.

I noted she didn't wade into any deep political waters. That would be for the man to do on his own. A clue was when she was asked whether her husband would favor higher taxes. No one has forgotten how Walter Mondale was nailed to the cross on this issue. So, heaven forbid that anyone should be tagged as a higher tax guy. Certainly Elizabeth wasn't going to lead her husband into a political minefield. Thus, it was no surprise when she said that Bob "wasn't in favor of a general increase in taxes or changing the

tax rates." Well, then, how was the budget going to be balanced? There was a long explanation and I was sort of lost in the maze.

Mrs. Dole was attired in a brown dress with matching shoes, had carefully manicured fingernails, and certainly a winning smile and mannerisms. She talked with ease, just like she had said the same thing a thousand times before. Nor did she seem to have one pound of extra weight.

She's an attractive North Carolina belle who was an excellent Dole ambassador, and would, I venture, make a super First Lady. She went to lengths to explain that "I'm just a small town

North Carolina gal."

I noted that Gracie Clark, the long-time Appanoose GOP dean, was there wearing a big Dole button. Gracie let it be known that Dole was her man. I automatically figure Dole has a great running start in these parts. Gracie has political moxie plus. She's certainly an old hand at the game. She was for Reagan in 1980, and while he lost Iowa in February, in the end, he won. Now Gracie is for Dole, and when Gracie is for someone, that's a major plus. If I were seeking a political leg up in Appanoose County I'd want Gracie in the saddle.

VOTE



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