

281. 1987

'I Would Be Proud' If Bob Is President

By IRENE H. JEPSEN
The Doran and Bina Dole family was a strong family, a unit, hardworking, and honest. Many articles have been written about their early life, the hard times, the enterprises and long working hours of the father, the ingenuity and talents of the mother who's every effort was directed towards the home life of the family, and of the many odd jobs, and their descriptions, of the Dole children.

In this interview with Kenny Dole, the third child in a family of four children, he was asked to describe his thoughts, first of his brother, Bob, and of his parents. Without hesitation, Kenny said of his brother:

"Not everybody loves Bob Dole like I do, because not everybody is his brother."

"But if everybody could sit down and talk to Bob Dole for five minutes—just five minutes—on any of their favorite subjects, whether they liked him or disliked him at the time, whether they were Democrats, Republicans, Independents or whatever—I don't think anyone else would have a prayer (to win the presidency)."

"Bob cares about everybody, and is always willing to help. He never says 'don't bother me.'"

Kenny was asked to summarize his father:

"Disciplined. In 50 years he only had one day that he did not work because of sickness. And I'm sure there were more times than that when he was sick. He had self-discipline, and through that he expected discipline within the family."

"His favorite saying was, 'If you can't do it right, don't do it.' And he was generous."

Kenny was then asked to summarize his mother:

"Disciplined. She wanted the best for all of us. She would say, 'It's out there, and if you guys want it, go work for it.' Her little saying always was, 'There's no such thing as can't. You can do anything.'"

"My mother and dad were good providers. They deprived themselves of so much, just to help us. I know that. They worked hard."

If you could have your parents back, just to say one thing to them, what would you say?

"I probably wouldn't say anything—I'd probably be listening. That's the background."

Kenny Dole was asked if he would describe Kenny Dole. He smiled shyly through the request, hoping to get past it. He finally was convinced to say a few words about himself:

"I'm a little amazed that people want to interview me. I'm not a celebrity. But, if there's some little thing that I can do to help Bob, then that's what I'm here for."

About himself:

"We're (he and his wife, Anita) involved in 'Poor Boy' Night. But I prefer to be on the receiving side. We enjoy ourselves, and at the same time benefit other people. For the time I spent in the hospital and was unable to walk:



KENNY DOLE

I'm very thankful I was able to overcome that. I spent three and half years in the service (Army), just like everybody else.

"I suppose there's amends we would all make if we could do it over, but, on the other hand, I think I've been pretty fortunate. I'm happy."

What do you think of your brother, not as your brother, but as Bob Dole, Mr. President? Do you think he is caring and kind and smart and not 'is he worthy of the office, but is the office worthy of him?'"

"Bob Dole would be a credit to the office. I say that honestly. He would be a good president."

"I would be proud."

Kenny Dole is not alone in making a statement. All of Russell is making a statement. They're glad Bob Dole's coming home, and they're proud too.

Dole, Physical Therapist Meet and Get Married

In 1948, near the end of his long and painful recovery from World War II Dole met an occupational therapist Phyllis Holden. Three months later they were married. His wife still had to help tie his shoes and button his shirts when he enrolled in The University of Arizona.

He graduated from Washburn University at Topeka in 1949 with the help of credits he had accrued in the Army, the G.I. Bill, and his wife—who not only worked but also managed to take notes on his reading and write the exams that he dictated.

In 1952 Dole got his law degree from Washburn.

In 1950, while still in law school, Dole was elected to a two-year term in the Kansas legislature—the first of 11 consecutive electoral victories. From 1953 to 1961 he served as Russell County attorney and developed his brisk, prosecutorial style. He was already a superb campaigner.

In 1958 he had defeated Democrat Cliff Holland, who recalls how even his mother was converted into a fan by the eager and boyish charmer. Dole met Holland's mother once casually in a crowd, then 18 months later remembered her by name.

In 1960 Dole was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives by the thrifty, hardworking and instantly conservative wheat farmers of the district that included Russell County. In all, Dole served four terms in the House, fighting for the farmers and opposing the social-reform programs of John F. Kennedy and Lyndon B. Johnson, although he did vote for the landmark civil rights bills.

Dole's witty and zealous partisanship caught the admiring eye of Jerry Ford, then the minority leader.

Idaho GOP Rank Favorites

IDAHO — Senate Minority Leader Robert Dole of Kansas overhauled the field in a 1988 presidential preference poll conducted at an Idaho Republican Party meeting in Garden City. And Elizabeth Dole outdistanced a number of other hopefuls.

In a survey of about 200 Republican leaders attending the meeting, state GOP Chairman Blake Hall said that Sen. Dole received 41 percent of the vote.

Vice President George Bush, former Delaware governor and congressman Pierre S. "Pete" Du Pont and New York Rep. Jack Kemp each received 10.2 percent, while White House chief of staff Howard Baker and former Transportation Secretary Elizabeth Dole, the minority leader's wife, collected 5.9 percent each.

The results show a marked difference from a survey released by GOP leaders in July. That non-scientific survey of 34,000 Idaho Republicans contacted by mail and telephone during the previous three months showed Dole with only a slim lead over former Nevada Sen. Paul Laxalt, Bush, Baker and Kemp.

But Laxalt, who already had won endorsements from Rep. Larry Craig, R-Idaho, and Secretary of State Pete Cenarrusa, pulled out of the presidential race. He cited trouble raising enough money.

With that opening, the Western regional director of the Dole for President Committee was making the rounds at the Idaho GOP gathering, trying to convince fence-sitters that his candidate was the way to go.

Steven Sego said he was encouraged by the support Dole's candidacy was getting in Idaho. Among other potential Republican presidential candidates, Laxalt won the support of 3.4 percent, even though he has withdrawn.

Robin Dole, Washington, D.C., is the only child of Robert J. Dole and Phyllis Macey of Topeka, Kan. Robin was born in Russell Oct. 18, 1954. Robin holds an executive position with Century 21, a nation-wide real estate firm. This picture of her was taken in the Russell home of Mr. and Mrs. Russell T. Townsley on Aug. 28, 1976. (Staff Photo)

Des Moines Register

FORT MADISON, Iowa — Robert Dole widened his differences with Vice-President George Bush by telling a Fort Madison audience recently that his poor Kansas upbringing better qualified him for the presidency than Bush's wealthy background.

"I do think I'm probably more like everyone else in this audience than George Bush," Dole replied. "We're from small towns and most of us had to work to get where we are."

Bush's father was Prescott Bush, a Connecticut senator. Bush attended preparatory school and Yale University. Dole grew up in Russell, Kan.

"I think we've experienced some ups and downs in our lifetimes," Dole said. "Getting where I've gotten wasn't because of any wealth in my family or because I had a powerful father or mother. My parents never finished high school, and they were never interested in politics."

He added: "So just from the standpoint of, 'Does Bob Dole know there are real people out there?' Has he ever been in contact with somebody who really had a problem? Has he ever been in contact with somebody on Social Security or some farmer or somebody who had to go to a food stamp line to get food?" I have."

Dole made it clear that he was not getting personal with his comments about Bush. "I think he's a fine person and a good vice-president," he said. "I don't

Mabel Lacey Says About Bob Dole:

'He Was There to Learn What Was Before Him'

By IRENE H. JEPSEN

Miss Mabel Lacey was an English teacher for 48 years, beginning in rural schools and then coming to the Russell Junior High, Russell High School, and finally to Fort Hays State University where she completed her career.

When Bob Dole was a seventh grader, Miss Lacey was his English teacher, and in 1986, upon the recommendation of Sen. Bob Dole, Miss Lacey was inducted into the Teacher's Hall of Fame, headquartered at Dodge City.

Although Miss Lacey's most extended contact with Bob Dole was during that one class period in his first year in junior high, she has seen him occasionally during the years.

"He was always so good to come back to Russell and visit his folks. He returns, of course, to visit his sister, Gloria, and his brother, Kenny. And sometimes I see him, too, and we have a little chat."

Seventh grade English in the early '30s involved the basics: Reading, grammar, writing, essays, and diagramming.

"I myself did not like to diagram, but saw its worth. And Bob was a splendid student. He always paid attention, and his lessons were always prepared," Miss Lacey said.

"He was there to learn what was before him, and he never had a grudge."

"Bob was better than any of the others in his class, and I never saw anyone who didn't like him."

"He was quiet, but spoke when called upon. He always was at school, and was always already in the classroom when I got there," she said.

"I knew him only in the structure of the classroom, where he was industrious and well behaved."

"I'm not surprised that he has gone so far, and I have the feeling that he is one of the best. I would recommend him for the office (of the President). I'm always glad to see him or his sisters. His sisters (Gloria and Norma Jean) were such nice girls," Miss Lacey concluded.



MABEL LACEY
Taught Bob Dole Seventh Grade English in 1930s

'Just Good in Every Way,'

—Baxter About Dole in Football

By IRENE H. JEPSEN

Although track was his best sport, Bob Dole also played basketball and football.

Coach George Baxter, for the years 1939-1949, had Dole on his football team for his junior-senior years, in the position of end.

"Bob was always willing to help in any way he could. He wasn't one to try to upstage. Once, when playing Ellis, it was real muddy. The Ellis players threw a pass and Bob caught it, much to everyone's surprise, because it was so very muddy. Bob said he didn't catch it, it just stuck to his hand."

"He was a good catcher. And he had speed. He was instrumental in the winning of a game with Great Bend because he caught two long passes."

"And he was good in other ways. He was easy to coach, followed directions, and got along real fine with other players."

"Bob was a worker and held jobs wherever he could: Dawson's Drug Store; Russell Drug; Kaw Pipe Line; and even de-



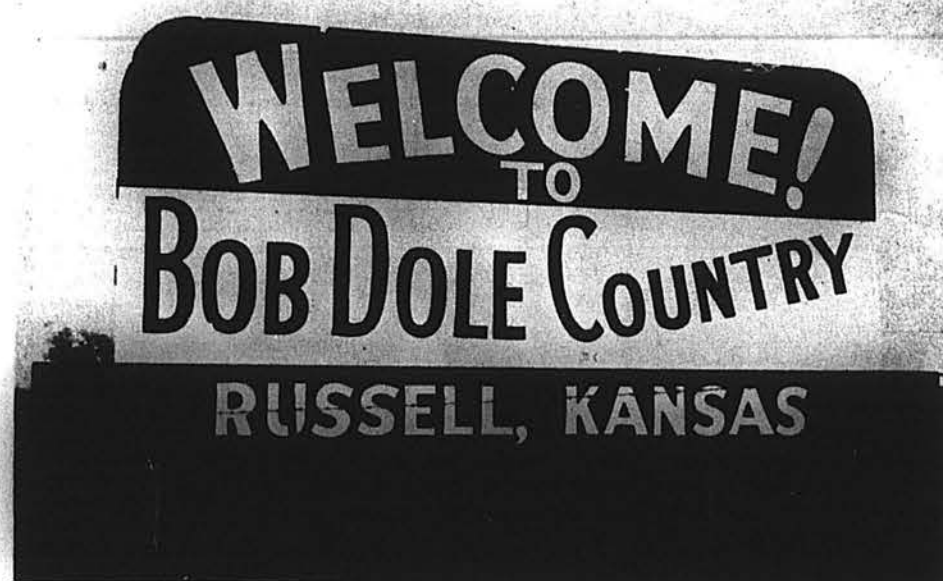
GEORGE BAXTER

livered The Salina Journal and The Russell Record. He was sports editor for The Pony Express, the monthly publication of the high school's journalism class. And we practiced football every day right after school.

"As coach, I would have the players run to the football field for practice, with the captains in the lead. That served two purposes: Physical workup, and it kept the boys off people's lawns."

"But Bob was good. He was just good in every way."

The high school was where the



BOB DOLE COUNTRY — As the thousands of visitors who will attend the announcement Monday, Nov. 9, by Sen. Bob Dole of his candidacy for presidential approach Russell, they will see one of the Bob Dole Country wel-

come signs. The signs are on all four approaches to the city. This sign is located about a mile west of the junction of Interstate 70 and S. Highway 281. (Staff Photo)



JOSEPH W. TALBOT, the father of Bina Dole, Bob Dole's mother, has just butchered a dozen hogs. Talbot was a big wheat farmer. He lived in West Kennebec (the English area) southwest of Russell. Talbot is on the left. In addition to hogs, he also raised horses and cattle. Talbot came to Russell County from Rising Sun, Ind., and in 1901 he married

Elva Mitchell, also of the Kennebec settlement. The couple had 12 children. Those still living are Zella Link, Russell; Mildred McNe, Harper, Kan.; Jean Staley, Russell; Betty Stafford, Fargo, N.D.; Edna Wakefield, Miami, Fla.; and Fred Talbot, Russell. Bina Dole was their oldest child. Mrs. Talbot died in 1932 and Mr. Talbot died in 1960.

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