

Great Bend Tribune, Sunday, August 28, 1994

## Scaled-down health-care reform may still be possible, says Dole

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — Chances of passing a massive health-care reform measure in the Congress this year are "pretty bleak," Senate Minority Leader Bob Dole said Saturday, but a scaled-down version still could win approval.

"There's a chance we can still get something done," if Democrats are willing to look at an incremental plan, Dole said during a brief news conference at the Downtown Airport. "There are about 20 items that every Democrat and Republican agree on."

Dole has put forward a plan that contains subsidies and insurance reforms designed to help people who can't afford coverage or can't get it because of pre-existing conditions.

The Kansas Republican also mentioned the plight of Jennifer Lucas, an 8-year-old Independence girl who was born with a heart ailment. The girl wrote a letter about her family's insurance problems to President Clinton. Clinton and Hillary Rodham Clinton both referred to her plight during their visit to Independence last month, and at other stops while stumping for health care reform.

The girl's family cannot get health coverage for her because of the pre-existing condition. They have amassed about \$20,000 in bills they cannot pay. A recent story in The Kansas City Star said the family had hoped the media attention would help increase contributions to a trust fund, but they said that had not been the case.

"I sent her some money," Dole said.

"She was kind of abandoned" after the initial crush of news coverage, he said.

Jennifer's father, Paul Lucas, said Saturday in a telephone interview that his daughter received a letter from Dole earlier this month.

The letter said, in part, "I wanted to do something to help. Enclosed is a check for \$500 for your trust fund ... I hope it will help with your medical bills. Elizabeth (Dole) and I have your family in our prayers."

Lucas said he was pleasantly surprised to hear from Dole.

"I was pretty shocked by it, actually. I knew he had been covering health care, but it was a surprise," Lucas said.

Dole also said the crime bill passed by the Senate on Thursday was too expensive, and he called his Kansas colleague's vote in favor of it "a mistake."

"I was very disappointed with the vote," of Sen. Nancy Kassebaum, Dole said. "Apparently she negotiated with Senator Mitchell. I never talk to her about votes. I think we have a good relationship. But that's the way it goes."

Kassebaum's vote for the crime bill won't affect the relationship between her and Dole, he said.

"My view as the leader is you don't look at the last vote, you look at the next vote. I think it was a mistake, but there will be another vote as soon as we get back."

"You don't cut off anyone at the knees because they disagree with you," he said. While Democrats may go home from

Congress and brag to voters about the crime bill's passage — at a time when polls show crime as a top concern of many voters — Dole said eventually the voters will look at the price tag.

"We just added \$30 billion to the deficit by passing the crime bill," he said. "That doesn't seem to upset some of my colleagues."

Dole also predicted a good election for Republicans in Missouri and Kansas in November.

"I think we have a great shot to elect a Republican governor in Kansas with Bill Graves," he said.

He also pointed out that early polls show former Missouri Gov. John Ashcroft leading his Democratic opponent, Rep. Alan Wheat of Kansas City, for the Senate seat being vacated by retiring Republican John Danforth.

"From everything we've seen, Ashcroft is ahead, but it's too early to tell," he said.

Clinton is expected to visit Kansas City next month to campaign for Wheat and raise money for Wheat and the Missouri Democratic Party. The visit can only help Wheat in at least one respect, Dole said.

"He (Clinton) can raise money," he said. "People will raise money ... But unless something else changes," Dole said he did not see the visit having a big impact on the race.

Dole was making stops in Topeka and Logan later Saturday before returning to Washington Saturday night.

## Dole tries to delay GATT

### Senator wants vote next year

By The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Senate Republican Leader Bob Dole says Congress should postpone a vote on a new global trade agreement until next year.

Dole's position represents a serious obstacle to the Clinton administration, which has insisted Congress approve the accord negotiated under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade before it adjourns in early October.

If successful, Dole's effort would represent another victory denied the president going into the Nov. 8 midterm election.

Democrats are conceding it is unlikely Congress will enact the kind of broad health care reform Clinton wanted. They must campaign for re-election based on the anti-crime bill and anything else they can enact.

Dole, R-Kan., said he favored the 123-nation GATT agreement but believed enough questions had been raised that it would be better to defer approval.

"We should not race to complete a major trade bill until we know what awaits us at the finish line," he said in a signed piece published in The Wichita (Kan.) Eagle on Sunday. "There is no reason we cannot address this important issue next year."

To take effect, the accord must be ratified by its signatories by June 30. But Clinton administration officials have pressed for approval this year, saying delay could hearten GATT opponents in other countries.

GATT is supported by most of the business community, traditional Republican allies. However, conservative activists, including Lyn Nofziger and Phyllis Schlafly, have cautioned against handing Clinton a victory before the election.



Dole

## DOLE

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But it was a controversy that Graves would not allow himself to be dragged into.

Asked twice whether he agreed with Dole's assessment of Nixon and whether Nixon was a role model for him, Graves would not answer directly.

Instead, he said, "Clearly, it will be up to history to write sort of the final chapters on Richard Nixon's life, but I know that Senator Dole and the president were close friends, and I know he has fond memories of him irrespective of some of the things that may have happened during the president's administration."

All in all, it was a good day for Graves, who raised about \$53,000 from supporters willing to pay \$1,000 a plate for a luncheon of chicken and chocolate cake and some private words from Dole.

Graves faces Democrat Jim Slattery, a congressman from Topeka, in the Nov. 8 election.

The rally was a testament to party unity. Those who had supported Pittsburg businessman Gene Bicknell's bid for the GOP nomination for governor, including state Rep. Susan Wagle, attended, as did those such as Tom Meyer who had supported



Graves

THE WICHITA EAGLE Wednesday,

September 7, 1994

## Dole gives Graves a boost at his fund-raiser

By Julie Wright  
The Wichita Eagle

U.S. Sen. Bob Dole, at the Wichita Marriott on Tuesday for a rally to honor Republican gubernatorial nominee Bill Graves, began his remarks by reminiscing about President Richard Nixon.

When Nixon visited the hotel in 1992 as the senator's guest, Dole said the warm reception the

ex-president received showed that many Kansans still respected him. Nixon died in April.

"And I'll say that after he's gone I still believe he knew more about foreign policy than all the others put together and he was a resource, a very valuable resource," Dole said.

"So maybe there's some redemption out there. Certainly, mistakes were made, and there are a lot of shows on about Watergate. ... We do have a chance in America for redemption, and I think that's important."

Even so, 20 years after Nixon resigned in disgrace from the presidency, he remains a controversial figure, so much so that it might be considered a strange choice for Dole to begin his remarks on Graves' behalf by extolling Nixon's

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Western Front Hutchinson News Wednesday, September 7, 1994

## Bob Dole is irresponsible big spender

I was intrigued by a Bob Dole press release in The Pratt Tribune. Bob "sees" bigots around Clinton. Is pot calling kettle black?

I have followed Bob Dole's career since (once) helping him to his first re-election to Congress in the very early '60s. Since then, I have noticed that the rise in the national debt (and social violence) parallels his rise to power (and his own wealth). He is now chairman of the (powerful) Senate Finance Committee.

One cause of big national debt is a billion-dollar pork barrel to pay for many wars ... since Bob's been in D.C. His claim to fame came from being in the 10th Mountain Division, during World War II. Their fame came through "capturing" an (unoccupied) Aleutian atoll ... with heavy losses! When (imagined) battle was over, and fog lifted, some said, "We have found the enemy, and it was us."

After average Bob got elaborate medical

care at government expense, he was against that, before playing musical chairs with Nancy's seat to foil health care for average people.

The second major cause of the rising national debt is violence that is thought by many to be caused by the "dis-ease" that stems from the many broken homes across our nation. Yet both Kansas senators role-model velvet violence, or sociopathology, too!

Two items alone may consume a major part of annual national debt, and neither has the ability to "see" that fact. Some say that "unless you contribute to solutions, you are part of the problem." Bob in particular cannot afford to see that, due to his "gains." One gain is Dole's, from heavy contributors that profit from the pathology "practices." One is the American Medical Society (health "care" lobbies). Lobbies then get Dole's Dole. With oil, finance, health, industry and military, we have the "O.F.H.I.M." (we sing) com-

plex, the one Eisenhower warned about!

I know of no one more (ir)responsible for "big spending" than Bob Dole. I notice all recent U.S. wars were vs. nonwhites and he would now like to bomb Slavs. It sounds like Bob Dole is singing "Onward Christian Soldiers," while complaining others are bigots. He smacks of a born-again Sen. McCarthy. Joe, a sick sinister splitter, splintered others via splendid spending, too.

Sometimes politicians retain self-respect by "seeing" their own splinter as a post in the eyes of the opposition. We don't need people causing dissension, to increase "dis-ease." We need people who reduce splinters, not cause them, especially in the White House.

Let's come out of the fog to undo a split-tongued senator, who may put the circus out of business, to hurt our GNP.

MICHAEL PTACEK  
Denver, Colo.

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## Dole questions Clinton's Cuba policy

The Associated Press

The United States is allowing Cuba to dictate immigration policy while it continues to be fixated on the invasion of another Western Hemisphere country, the Senate minority leader said Friday.

"They (the Clinton administration and Cuba) are limiting their talks to immigration," said Sen. Bob Dole, R-Kan., during his weekly telephone press conference with Kansas journalists. "Fidel" Castro, of course, would like to expand the talks and talk about aid, lifting the embargo. My view is that talking to Castro is probably not a winner in any event.

"You've got to add to that the Haitian problem. It seems this administration is hell-bent on invading Haiti, even though there really is no American national

interest at stake there. You've got to look at the two. If you talk about about human rights and oppression, certainly Castro is more guilty of that than anyone in Haiti, but I don't see the administration talking about invasion of Cuba, a blockade or even international sanctions on Cuba."

Dole, who has opposed Clinton administration policy for dealing with Haiti, continues to question the saber-rattling toward that country.

"They are talking about 266 soldiers from three or four other countries to help with the invasion (of Haiti)," he said. "What President Clinton needs is 266 votes in Congress to approve any invasion of Haiti. That's a handful of men. That's symbolic only. There are estimates this morning that it will cost nearly \$500 million if we have an invasion of

Haiti. So we are talking about half a billion dollars to do something that not many people back here understand."

Dissatisfaction with Clinton's performance as president may extend beyond discussions over Haiti and Cuba and into the heartland. Dole said the mood for electing more Republicans to Congress this fall "looks good and feels good," especially in states where Clinton's approval rating is below 40 percent. One such state is Kansas.

Dole said he will be conducting fund raisers for Todd Tiahrt, who is running against Rep. Dan Glickman, D-Kan., and Sam Brownback, who is running against former Gov. John Carlin, for the 2nd District Congress seat.

That seat is being vacated by Rep. Jim Slattery, D-Kan., who is running for governor against Republican Secretary of State Bill Graves. Dole has already done a small fund-raiser for Graves.

Early polls show Graves in a good position to defeat Slattery, Dole said.

The Senate minority leader has spent considerable time on the road, attempting to elect Republicans to Congress. Dole said he feels fairly good about the GOP's chances of taking back the Senate — which would make Dole Senate majority leader for the second time in his career — and even an outside chance that the party could reclaim the House for the first time in 40 years.

Also during the press conference, Dole said he hoped congressional leaders from both

chambers and both parties could sit down and hammer out a limited set of health care reforms that could be passed by the time Congress adjourns Oct. 7.

There are several areas in which "85 to 90 percent" of Congress already agrees. Those areas include coverage for pre-existing health conditions, portability of coverage from one job to another, malpractice reform, small-business insurance pooling, and insurance subsidies for low-income individuals.

But Dole continues his opposition to any massive overhaul of health care that would create a large new bureaucracy.

The senator said he would be attending the Kansas State Fair on its first weekend. It begins Friday.

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## Clinton, Dole and the battle for president in 1996

By Robert E. Thompson

Hearst Newspapers

WASHINGTON — Shortly after he became president, Bill Clinton accepted an invitation from Washington power broker Bob Strauss to meet with Bob Dole over lunch at a popular local restaurant.

Strauss, a former chairman of the Democratic National Committee who served as Jimmy Carter's international trade negotiator and George Bush's ambassador to the Soviet Union, apparently hoped that a cordial luncheon would help cement a bond between the president and the Senate minority leader and thus avert stalemate on Capitol Hill.

From all reports, the luncheon was cordial. But the bond was not cemented, and stalemate was not averted.

Whether it is characterized as the battle of the titans or the struggle of the Lilliputians, the conflict between Clinton and Dole is the most riveting rivalry in the nation's capital today.

It also may be the opening shot in the great

presidential marathon of 1996, which could find Dole as the Republican nominee challenging the Democratic incumbent.

Once the results of the 1994 congressional elections are in, Dole is expected to decide whether to seek the 1996 GOP presidential nomination.

By virtue of his almost daily appearances on television news, his aborted runs for the GOP nomination in 1980 and 1988, and his masterminding of Republican strategy that defeated Clinton's economic incentive package last year and almost beat his crime bill this year, Dole is the best known of the possible 1996 GOP contenders.

But he also is the one in the toughest spot. He must try to please the large contingent of conservatives within his ranks while not alienating the much smaller band of Republican moderates.

He must lead the fight against Clinton's policies, utilizing the Senate filibuster as one of his tools, while seeking to avoid being seen as an obstructionist. If he is to be his party's presidential nominee, he must

act in conformance with the fact that its ideological center has moved rightward since the days of Dwight Eisenhower, Richard Nixon and Gerald Ford.

Clinton and Dole are men of very different backgrounds, experience, philosophies and generational perspectives. At 48, Clinton is nearly a quarter century younger than the 71-year-old Dole.

Where the president managed to escape military service in Vietnam, Dole is a wounded veteran of World War II. While Dole, who has served in Congress for 33 years, is a consummate Washington insider, Clinton still is trying to learn how to deal with the intricacies of life in the nation's capital.

Both men are internationalists. But Dole, who was indispensable in helping Clinton win Senate approval of the North American Free Trade Agreement, is highly critical of Clinton's inclination to seek U.N. and NATO approval before acting in crisis situations abroad.

Dole has lived through two of the seminal

events of the 20th century — the Great Depression and World War II. Clinton has only read about them.

Yet, were it not for the pressures within their parties, the president and the senator might achieve a degree of harmony that so far has eluded them.

Clinton faces the possibility that he may be challenged by Nebraska's budget-cutting Sen. Bob Kerrey and by Jesse Jackson, who faults Clinton for not spending enough money to help the poor and unemployed.

Dole, according to Senate insiders, is constantly pushed rightward by Texas Sen. Phil Gramm, an abrasive conservative who is expected to seek the GOP presidential nomination.

Dole's age also is a problem; in 1996, he will be 73 years old.

When Dole's fellow Kansan, Eisenhower, left the White House in 1961 he said no man over 70 should serve as president. But then along came Ronald Reagan, who was inaugurated two weeks before his 70th birthday and went on to serve two full terms.

Dole is a tough, acerbic leader who can hold his troops in line and show his enemies little mercy. But he also is possessed of a sentimental streak that led him to tears when Gerald Ford selected him to run for vice president in 1976, when he bade farewell to Bush after the last election and when he eulogized Richard Nixon last spring.

The Clinton-Dole rivalry is not unlike that which existed between Harry Truman and Robert A. Taft, the conservative, isolationist "Mr. Republican" from Ohio.

Having failed to win the GOP nomination in 1940, Taft tried again in 1948, when Truman was the Democratic nominee. Although he was not the official GOP leader in the Senate, Taft had the power to determine the Republican course on many issues and to sabotage Truman's domestic agenda.

Although Truman's Republican 1948 opponent was New York Gov. Tom Dewey, Truman campaigned against the obstructionist Taft-dominated 80th Congress. It worked for Truman.

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September 10, 1994 Page 5

## Dole calls for debate on Haiti plans

The Associated Press

OMAHA, Neb. — Senate Minority Leader Bob Dole says there will be a congressional debate next week on President Clinton's plans to invade Haiti.

The Kansas Republican, in Omaha for a series of fund raisers for Nebraska Republican candidates Thursday, said Congress would reject the invasion of Haiti if it were put to a vote today.

"We are going to have a debate one way or the other," Dole said. "It wouldn't get through. He wouldn't get half the Democrats."

With the Pentagon announcing a pre-invasion buildup, Dole demanded that Clinton explain to the public and Congress why he would take military action against the Caribbean nation.

Dole said he wants a debate and vote before Clinton takes action.

"There is not a single American life threatened in Haiti," he said. "There is no American interest in Haiti."

The argument that the situation in Haiti is similar to that in Panama and Grenada before American invasions during the Reagan and Bush administrations is inaccurate, Dole said.

"In Panama, we had a little thing called the Panama Canal there — a direct American interest," Dole said. In addition, he said, U.S. troops were being harassed, and Panama was being used as a haven by drug lords shipping to the United States.

"In Grenada, we had treaty obligations, plus we had about 100 or so American students there who were threatened," he said.



Dole