

Kansans to call the shots

Roberts poised to become cream of the crop on ag committee

By Ray Hemman
The Hutchinson News
The last Republican chairman of the House Agriculture Committee came from Garden City. The next GOP chairman of the Agriculture Committee is expected to come from 55 miles away - Dodge City.
With Republicans sweeping to victory nationwide Tuesday, Rep. Pat Roberts, R-Kan.,

is expected to become chairman of the House Agriculture Committee this January. Roberts, Dodge City, will be the first Republican to lead the committee since Rep. Clifford Hope Sr., R-Kan., chaired the panel in the 1950s. Hope hailed from Garden City.
"The last was from Garden City and the next is from Dodge City," said Roberts, who currently serves as ranking minority member of the panel. "I said to Cliff Hope Jr. that I feel like the dog who caught the bus. What do I do now?"
By Thursday morning, Roberts already had been on two telephone conference calls with

Dole, top Republicans gather to celebrate election victories

By Mike Shields
Harris News Service
FORBES FIELD - A tornado - but not much else - could have blown the exultant bloom off the Republican victory fest at south Topeka's industrial-park air terminal Thursday morning. At the meeting was nearly every GOP notable whom Kansas can muster.

Bob Dole, soon to be U.S. Senate majority leader, arrived on a large, private jet, wing number N27CD, at about 9:40 a.m. It was part of a national victory lap for the Russell native that included a next stop in Iowa, that important presidential election state.
In the closing weeks of a campaign that resulted in a national Republican sweep that solidly echoed in Kansas, Dole kept a grueling travel schedule. He seemed to stomp for Republican candidates in two places at once. He was with Virginia's Oliver North one day and California's Michael Huffington the next.

The Topeka Capital-Journal, Thursday, November 10, 1994 9-C

ELECTION '94

GOP leadership may clash at keeping common voice

By SARA FRITZ
Los Angeles Times

WASHINGTON - While Tuesday's election results decreed that the House and Senate will be controlled by the Republican party next year, there is still no guarantee the leadership of the 104th Congress will speak with a single voice.

Indeed, the new governing majority on Capitol Hill is every bit as diverse and unpredictable as the Democratic regime it will supplant. And nowhere is that as that diversity so obvious as in the personalities of the two men who will lead the new majority: Newt Gingrich, the

future House Speaker, and Bob Dole, the likely Senate majority leader.
Gingrich, 51, the conservative firebrand who has been credited as the mastermind of the GOP's monumental election victory in Congress, is the quintessential "New Republican." As a long-time back-bencher and a member of a largely powerless minority, he has built his career on ideological bombast - savagely attacking opponents and challenging the staid, time-honored traditions of Congress.

Dole is the product of another era.
A disabled World War II veteran, Dole, 71, has previously served as a leader and master legislator, both in the majority and the minority in the Senate, and has also had the experience of running for president.
While his dark wit makes him every bit adept at attacking his opponents as Gingrich, Dole nevertheless possesses a pragmatic statesmanship and takes pride in passing legislation.

The fault line that divides Gingrich and Dole is not the same as the one that frequently separates moderates and conservatives in the Republican party at large. While Dole was once viewed as a GOP moderate, his willingness to challenge Clinton's policies at every turn over the past two years have left no doubt about his conservative credentials.
Some say Dole has been influenced in recent years by the Gingrich school of politics. Dole - like Gingrich - long ago rejected the genteel country club-style of Republicanism adhered to by their predecessors, such as retiring House Minority Leader Bob Michel of Illinois.
Yet when it comes to leading the new Republican majority in Congress, many GOP congressional insiders fear that Gingrich and Dole may be like oil and water - constantly at odds over the style and direction of their party.

It is no secret on Capitol Hill that Gingrich and Dole have never seen eye-to-eye on much of anything. Back in the 1980s when Dole still served on the Senate Finance Committee, Gingrich won the senator's everlasting enmity by referring to him as the "tax collector for the welfare state."

In advance of Tuesday's election, the two Republican leaders sought to bury the hatchet. But their differences were so great that Rutgers political scientist Ross K. Baker described the meetings between them as "the equivalent of the Oslo meeting between the Palestinians and the Israelis," which eventually led to the peace accord signed last year.
On top of their personal and political differences, political analysts note Dole and Gingrich will be leading remarkably different Republican armies into battle

Friday, Dole and Gingrich will meet for the first time since the election in an effort to forge a working relationship. So far, both of them are pledging cooperation.

He was elected to the Senate in 1968 after eight years in the House. President Richard M. Nixon appointed him in 1971 to head the Republican National Committee, and he ran for vice president as President Gerald Ford's running mate in 1976.
In Gingrich's eyes, Dole represents the establishment views that have often prevented the GOP from having wider popular appeal. Just recently, however, he allowed that Dole's political views had matured lately in response to pressure from younger conservatives.
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The Associated Press
President Clinton accepted a "share of the responsibility" Wednesday for the debacle.

Chastened Clinton calls for meeting at 'center'

By DOUGLAS JEHL
The New York Times

WASHINGTON - Even as President Clinton reached out a hand to victorious Republicans Wednesday, the White House was casting about for ways to govern that wouldn't require congressional cooperation.

Looking somewhat chastened and sounding conciliatory at a White House news conference, President Clinton accepted his share of responsibility for the devastating defeats suffered by Democrats in Congress, and he said he would try to seek common ground with Republicans on issues like welfare reform.

But while congratulating Sen. Bob Dole of Kansas, who is almost certain to be the new majority leader, and Rep. Newt Gingrich of Georgia, the apparent next Speaker of the House, Clinton also warned that his political rivals must now do their part to help him govern.

"We were held accountable yesterday," Clinton said of Democrats in the White House and Congress. He said Republicans would now have "a larger responsibility for acting in the best interest of America." He called on them "to join me in the center of the public debate where the best ideas for the next generation of American progress must come."

But the mood at the White House was grim as Clinton's advisers tried to grapple with the enormity of the defeat. With both houses of Congress soon to be in hostile hands, advisers to Clinton said Wednesday he recognized that much of his legislative agenda might be doomed.

The advisers said Clinton might have to resort to regulations, executive orders and other presidential tools to work around Capitol Hill, much as Ronald Reagan and George Bush did when the House and Senate were in Democratic hands.
"There's a lot you can do without Congress, and believe me, we'll be looking at everything," a senior White House official said.

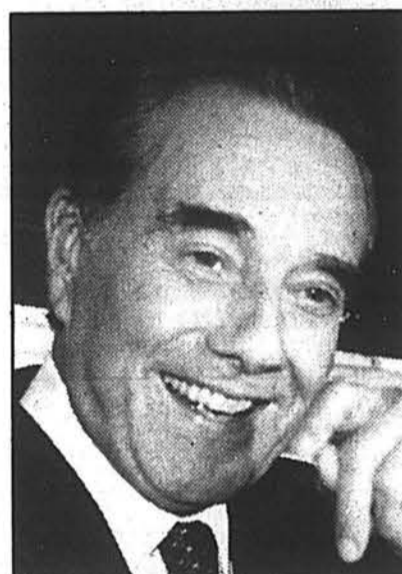
"There's a lot you can do without Congress, and believe me, we'll be looking at everything," a senior White House official said.

The aides also spoke with apprehension about the likelihood that Republicans led by Sen. Alfonse M. D'Amato of New York would intensify a congressional inquiry into the Whitewater affair to make it a permanent distraction. D'Amato is in line to be the new chairman of the Senate Banking Committee.

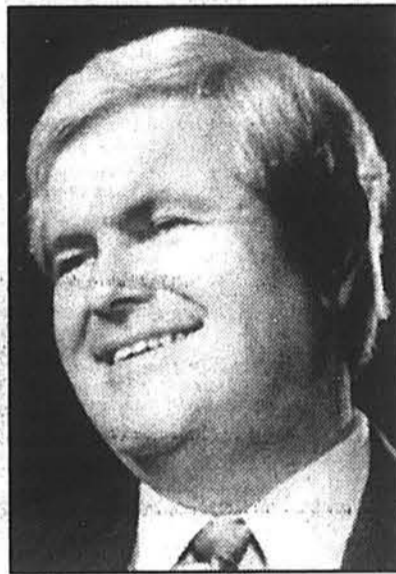
In painting a picture of the second half of Clinton's term, these advisers said he had concluded it would be pointless to wage a confrontation with Capitol Hill across a broad front. They said he would aim to strike accords with Republicans on measures that have bipartisan support, like an effort to overhaul the welfare system.

But the president now expects only modest changes in the health-care system, they said, and has little chance of winning backing for the new domestic spending he has portrayed as a necessary investment.

The president will also have to contend with initiatives like a balanced-budget amendment and term limits that Republicans have made central to their campaigns and which they are now likely to try to rush into law.



Sen. Bob Dole
Pragmatic statesman



Rep. Newt Gingrich
Conservative firebrand

FRIDAY ■ NOVEMBER 11, 1994 ■ THE HAYS DAILY NEWS

Dole: Vote was anti-Democrat, not anti-incumbent

By MATT TRUETT
Associated Press

TOPEKA - Sen. Bob Dole stopped in Kansas on Thursday for a unity rally with state Republicans who won election in the party's landslide victory two days earlier.

He presented fellow Kansas Republican Sen. Nancy Kassebaum with a white T-shirt that said on the front: "Bob Dole's Republican Victory Tour." The back of the shirt read: "Nine more in '94," referring to the nine Senate seats Republicans claimed from Democrats.

Tuesday's elections gave Republicans majorities in both houses of Congress for the first time in more than 40 years. Dole is likely to be the next Senate majority leader.

Dole said he did not see an anti-incumbent message in Tuesday's voting.

"We didn't lose a single Republican senator, House member or governor," Dole said during a news conference at Topeka's Forbes Field. "So it wasn't anti-incumbency, but I think it was a strong message."

He said Americans want to give Republicans a chance to govern.

"If we don't do any better, out we go," he said. "My view is if we tried and failed, at least we've tried."

The Senate will have 11 new members, all of them Republicans. The GOP now has a 53-47 advantage in membership.

"Clearly the word 'reform' is part of the agenda," Kassebaum said. She attributed

the Republican successes in part to Dole's extensive travels throughout the nation, campaigning for Republican candidates.

"I think we have a powerful message from the American people that they think government is too big and spends too much," Meyers said. "They would like us to address the problem of deficit reduction."

Dole said he believes he'll be able to get along with U.S. Rep. Newt Gingrich, a Georgia Republican who is likely to become speaker of the House. Some Washington observers believe there has been bad blood between the two, based on Gingrich's past comments about Dole.

"I don't think it's going to be difficult to work together," Dole said.



U.S. Sen. Bob Dole, center, joins Republican office holders Thursday in Topeka. From left are new 4th District U.S. Rep. Todd Tiahrt, 3rd District U.S. Rep. Jan Meyers, Gov.-elect Bill Graves and new Lt. Gov. Sheila Frahm, new Attorney General Carla Stovall, U.S. Sen. Nancy Kassebaum, new Secretary of State Ron Thornburg, new 2nd District U.S. Rep. Sam Brownback and Kansas Senate President Bud Burke.

GOP

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Already waiting at the terminal Thursday to celebrate what a T-shirt proclaimed as "Bob Dole's National Victory Tour" were Sen. Nancy Kassebaum and Third District Congresswoman Jan Meyers.

All the Kansas GOP gonnabes were there, too: Gov. Bill Graves, Lt. Gov. Sheila Frahm, Attorney General Carla Stovall, Secretary of State Ron Thornburgh, and Congressmen Todd Tiahrt and Sam Brownback. (Brownback was wearing cowboy boots and a business suit, apparently adopting the trademark of Jim Slattery, the Democrat he will succeed in Congress.)

Moments after Dole swept into the terminal, expectant news reporters were asked to leave a glass-walled conference room where the Republican leaders surrounded two collapsible banquet tables that had been pushed together lengthwise. They sat and sipped coffee or orange juice from plastic cups and munched doughnuts and congratulated one another. "Gloatmeal" would have been the appropriate breakfast food.

Dole sat in the center directly across the table from Graves, Kassebaum to his left and Tiahrt to his right. Graves had Frahm at his right and Brownback to his left. And so on around the table with places also for the Republican losers, Insurance Commissioner Ron Todd and treasurer candidate Randy Duncan. Also at the table were state Senate President Bud Burke and the state's two GOP national committee members, Jack Ranson of Wichita and Mary Alice Lair of Piqua.

First District Congressman Pat Roberts was the only one absent. He was in Washington preparing to become chairman of the House Agriculture Committee.

Later, the leaders crossed the hall to another glass-enclosed conference room with a view of the tarmac and Dole's airplane. A podium with a "Graves for Governor" banner and two flags behind it was the focusing target for the TV cameramen.

Governor-Elect Graves introduced Majority Leader-Elect Dole, who introduced Kassebaum, soon to be chairman of the Senate Labor Committee, replacing Sen. Ted Kennedy, and so on until all the elected officials had been acknowledged.

Dole said the election, which will put Republicans in control of both chambers of Congress for the first time since 1954, was a "powerful message from the American people."

"We didn't lose a single incumbent," he said of the congressional races. "But if we don't do any better, out we go."

Dole ducked a question about what Republican proposals the public can expect to see soon debated in Congress.

Congresswoman Meyers, after leaving the podium, said the GOP Contract with America promises that the presidential line-item veto and a constitutional amendment requiring a balanced federal budget will be taken up within the first 100 days of a Republican Congress.