#### **Editorial Opinion** Dole stands firm

Senator shows guts with Bosnia position

Dole has been labeled a brilliant but heartless legislative deal-maker, strong on tactics but weak on principle. But on Bosnia, Dole seems to lead with his heart rather than his head.

- Congressional Quarterly

ob Dole, Kansas' most famous export since Toto, is in a position that would turn lesser men into jelly. He is running for president.

That status has been known to turn the toughest of politicians into squishy, mealymouthed sorts who will go to any length to avoid taking a tough position on anything.

As the pressure of the Road to the White House builds, Dole may yet

weaken at the knees. But, so far, the man has been rock-solid on one principle, a principle that must be principle, because it is not likely to score him many political points.

Dole is sickened by the world's response, or lack thereof, to the rape of Bosnia.

He has called for air strikes against the aggressor Serbs, who have butchered a nation and laid waste to some of Europe's oldest and most beautiful cities.

He wants the United States to end the arms embargo against the Bosnian government so that that nation's besieged Muslims can at least do something to defend themselves. He does this even though he knows that it will probably lead to more violence in the short-run, which will cause United Nations

peacekeepers to pull out of the area, which will trigger a U.S. commitment to use American troops to cover their escape.

He knows that the American people are more than a little leery of any more foreign entanglements. He knows that we have seen the carnage and bloodshed of Sarajevo, and that we, as a nation, have not been moved to outrage, or even much concern.

Yet Dole persists.

He has consistently criticized two presidents - one Republican, one Democrat — for their weakness in the face of these war crimes.

Fellow Republicans are telling him, quietly and not-so-quietly, to cool it, lest he come across as too eager to embroil our armed services in another foreign adventure.

There may be some method to his madness. Dole may be so devious that he thinks holding to a politically unpopular position will make him appear strong in a world of weaklings. He may also hope it reminds us that he is the last hero of The Good War who will ever run for president.

Still, by sticking to his position on Bosnia, Dole risks political attack from the right, which will label him an interventionist, and the left, which will call him a warmonger.

This is a complicated, dangerous issue. Whether Dole is right, and what history will think of his ideas, is a question impossible to answer in this space.

But, on at least on this one issue, Dole seems not to be concerned about what makes political sense, what will play in the polls, what will leave the networks with a good sound bite

At least on this one issue, Bob Dole is standing up for what he thinks is right.

All of our presidents, and wouldbe presidents, should be so bold.

FRIDAY MARCH 17, 1995 THE HAYS DAILY NEWS

# Russell proud of its 2 candidates

They point to values both men learned in their small town

By KEVIN ANDERSON

Hays Daily News RUSSELL RUSSELL — Driving along Interstate 70 towards Russell, large signs welcome motorists to "Bob Dole Country."

not the only claim to political fame honesty, a sense of family and a powthis town of 4,700 can boast,

as Arlen Specter, a Pennsylvania senator who spent his boyhood and high school years in Russell, announced his intention to throw his hat into the crowded field of hopefuls vying for the 1996 Republican nomination for president.

Although Specter left Russell for college before moving to Pennsylvania, local residents still refer to him by his first name.

At 10 a.m. every day, a group of about 10 retired and semi-retired men meet at Meridy's restaurant on Fossil Street near I-70 for what group member Max Horn describes as a "kaffee klatsch."

Members of the group weigh in on topics from sports to weather to politics and especially taxes — as they drink coffee around a large round table.

Foremost on the group's mind today is the NCAA basketball tournament, but many members are familiar with Specter and readily give their two cents worth on his chances, his politics and his motives for running.

Horn used to eat lunch frequently

senator's older brother who ran a pipe salvage business in Russell for a number of years, until his death over a year ago. As for Russell's formula for producing presidential candidates, Horn

points to the school system. And others around the table, such as Everett Dumler, agree, remembering Specter as one of the best debaters

in Russell. Horn believes that the town on a whole had an effect on Specter, helping to instill in him what are referred But the Senate majority leader is to in Russell as small-town values -

not have as much of a chance as Dole of winning the nomination. But fellow kaffee klatscher Fritz

form and trying to move the party in a more moderate direction, Waymaster said. But if name recognition is a gauge for national polit-

with Morton Specter, the Pennsylvania country is ready for a Jewish presi

background.

ical success, Dole might have an edge on Specter. When Norman Helton, Kansas Sen. Bob Dole, left, as a senior at Russell High paster of the First Southern School in 1941, and Pennsylvania Sen. Arlen Specter, as a Baptist Church of Russell,

heard of Specter's intention to run for the Republican presidential nomination, he asked his wife, "He's not from Russell is he?" Helton is a newcomer to Russell,

dent, referring to Specter's religious

think that it took the country a long

time to elect a Catholic president, and

I am not sure that they are ready for a

thinking is wrong, it will have some

She said that although that type of

Back at the table at Meridy's, Horn

Waymaster said he is not

sure if Specter's interest is

As the only Republican

candidate to take a pro-

choice stance, Specter's

motivation may lie in

changing the GOP's plat-

said that he thinks that Specter does

Jewish president," she said.

bearing on Specter's chances.

"It's not that I am prejudiced, but I

moving here eight and a half months Dottie Dumler, who lives on a farm ago from southern Illinois. west of Russell, takes a break from But whether Specter registers with the nation or not, the fact that two She believes that Specter was presidential hopefuls come from instilled with the area's conservative Russell is sure to put Kansas — if not Russell — on the map, Helton said. Although she thinks that Specter

It's not every town in America where the residents refer to two U.S. She said that she is not sure that the senators by their first names.

FRIDAY MARCH 17, 1995 THE HAYS DAILY NEWS

Russell High senior in 1947.

erful work ethic.

values while in Russell.

"If you don't work out here, people

don't think much of you," Horn said.

reading her paper at Daylight Donuts.

would make a good president, Dumler

said, "I don't think it's his year."

# Russell proud of its 2 candidates

They point to values both men learned in their small town

By KEVIN ANDERSON

**Hays Daily News** RUSSELL - Driving along Interstate 70 towards Russell, large signs welcome motorists to "Bob Dole Country."

not the only claim to political fame honesty, a sense of family and a powthis town of 4,700 can boast,

as Arlen Specter, a Pennsylvania senator who spent his boyhood and high school years in Russell, announced his intention to throw his hat into the crowded field of hopefuls vying for the 1996 Republican nomination for president.

Although Specter left Russell for college before moving to Pennsylvania, local residents still refer to him by his first name.

At 10 a.m. every day, a group of about 10 retired and semi-retired men meet at Meridy's restaurant on Fossil Street near I-70 for what group member Max Horn

describes as a "kaffee klatsch." Members of the group weigh in on topics from sports to weather to politics - and especially taxes - as they drink coffee around a large round table.

Foremost on the group's mind today is the NCAA basketball tournament, but many members are familiar with Specter and readily give their two cents worth on his chances, his politics and his motives for running. Horn used to eat lunch frequently

senator's older brother who ran a pipe salvage business in Russell for a number of years, until his death over a year ago. As for Russell's formula for produc-

points to the school system. And others around the table, such as Everett Dumler, agree, remember-

ing Specter as one of the best debaters in Russell whole had an effect on Specter, help-

Russell High senior in 1947.

erful work ethic.

values while in Russell.

"If you don't work out here, people don't think much of you," Horn said.

reading her paper at Daylight Donuts.

instilled with the area's conservative

would make a good president, Dumler

said, "I don't think it's his year."

She believes that Specter was

Although she thinks that Specter

She said that she is not sure that the

Horn believes that the town on a But the Senate majority leader is to in Russell as small-town values -

with Morton Specter, the Pennsylvania country is ready for a Jewish president, referring to Specter's religious background.

"It's not that I am prejudiced, but I think that it took the country a long ing presidential candidates. Horn time to elect a Catholic president, and I am not sure that they are ready for a Jewish president," she said.

She said that although that type of thinking is wrong, it will have some bearing on Specter's chances. Back at the table at Meridy's, Horn

said that he thinks that Specter does ing to instill in him what are referred not have as much of a chance as Dole of winning the nomination. But fellow kaffee klatscher Fritz

Waymaster said he is not sure if Specter's interest is

As the only Republican candidate to take a prochoice stance, Specter's motivation may lie in changing the GOP's plat-form and trying to move the party in a more moderate direction, Waymaster said.

But if name recognition is a gauge for national political success, Dole might have an edge on Specter. When Norman Helton,

Kansas Sen. Bob Dole, left, as a senior at Russell High paster of the First Southern School in 1941, and Pennsylvania Sen. Arlen Specter, as a Baptist Church of Russell, heard of Specter's intention to run for the Republican presidential nomination, he asked his

wife, "He's not from Russell is he?" Helton is a newcomer to Russell Dottie Dumler, who lives on a farm moving here eight and a half months west of Russell, takes a break from ago from southern Illinois.

But whether Specter registers with the nation or not, the fact that two presidential hopefuls come from Russell is sure to put Kansas - if not Russell — on the map, Helton said.

It's not every town in America where the residents refer to two U.S. senators by their first names.



### Dole troubles some on affirmative action

By NITA LELYVELD The Associated Press

■ ASHINGTON — Ordering hearings and giving speeches, Senate Republican leader Bob Dole is leading his party's push to reconsider affirmative

Civil rights groups say they are troubled by the fighting words from a soon-to-be presidential candidate who has always been an ally.

Dole earlier this week suggested that after nearly 30 years of affirmative action laws, "the race-counting game has gone too far." But he said Friday his comments don't mean his position is shifting.

"I'm proud of my civil rights record and I have never shied away from it," he said, recit- But they remain concerned. ing a list of laws he has supported over the

not, and should not, disqualify me from raisilegitimate questions about the continui effectiveness of affirmative action - partilarly when the affirmative-action label is used to describe quotas, set-asides and other preferences

As the 1996 presidential race begins to take shape, affirmative action is a key theme. Sen. Phil Gramm, R-Texas, has said that as president he would issue an executive order eliminating federal hiring and contract practices based solely on race or gender. And President Clinton is reviewing affirmative action pro-

"Presidential politics will probably play an increasing role in the positioning of certain people when it comes to this issue," Senate Minority Leader Tom Daschle said Friday.

Civil-rights groups are hesitant to criticize Dole, a man who has helped them in the past.

"Senator Dole's apparent change of heart on the need for affirmative action programs is "However my past record on civil rights does troubling," said/Wade Henderson, head of the

> KS 67665 T.Jassna, col. 1 126 EAST 6TH PUBLIC LIBRARY

#### **Dole on affirmative action**

**Continued from page 1-A** 

NAACP's Washington bureau and the organization's chief national lobbyist.

Glass Ceiling Commission would not now turn mined," Neas said. a blind eye to the evidence that suggests affirmative action is still necessary."

Henderson was referring to the commission formed in 1991 to assess the progress of women and minorities in the workplace.

This week, issuing its first report, that group said, "Progress has been disappointing- discuss his review and ways to confront \$ Ralph Neas, executive director of the

Leadership Conference on Civil Rights, said Dole had "played a constructive role" in tration officials have said it is designed as many of the two dozen civil-rights laws much to find ways of protecting the preferpassed during the Reagan and Bush adminis- ence programs that are still working effectrations - from the 1982 extension of the tively as to weed out ones that are not. Voting Rights Act to the Civil Rights Act of

"We have many times applauded these contributions," he said.

He especially noted that Dole opposed an attempt in the Reagan administration to gut the Nixon administration executive order that is central to affirmative action.

Under that order, if an employer receiving federal funds determines he has too few women and minorities, he must set goals and timetables and make a good-faith effort to

meet them. Dole opposed the move that would have made setting those goals and timetables voluntary, Neas said.

Neas said he was surprised, therefore, that leader criticized the goals and timetables lan-

Dole said he expected hearings on affirmative action to "demonstrate that there are other, more equitable ways to expand opportunity, without resorting to policies that grant preferences to individuals simply because they happen to be members of certain

"What we hope is that Senator Dole will work with the civil rights community and with Republicans and Democrats and make sure that one of the great bipartisan achievements "Surely the senator who gave the nation the of the past 30 years is not undone or under-In his remarks on affirmative action, Dole

repeatedly has spoken of quotas, saying they should not exist. But Neas said federal law prohibits them and Dole knows it. Clinton, meanwhile, met Friday with Democratic senators at the White House to

Dole's assault. The president ordered the review after Dole began speaking out. However, adminis-

Sen. John Breaux, D-La., told reporters after the meeting that he doesn't think there's much time for Democrats to figure out a solution because Republicans see a "real politi-

cal opportunity to score points.' On the other hand, Sen. Joseph Lieberman, D-Conn., said, "We ought not to be rushed." Nancy Zirkin, director of government rela-

tions for the American Association of University Women, a leading advocate for women's equity, contended the push to change the law may backfire.

"I think that everyone's looking in both parties at what happened in 1994 - the strength of the white male vote and 'how white males spoke,' " she said. "What they're not looking at is the fact that in that election, in his speech Wednesday, the Republican women didn't turn out in the same percentages as they did in 1992. In an issue like affirmative action, it could very well wake up women to understand that issues in their lives are stake."