



ONWARD, UPWARD! — After his formal announcement as a GOP presidential candidate Monday at the Kansas ExpoCentre in Topeka Monday, Sen. Bob Dole, wife Elizabeth and daughter Robin joined with upwards

of 15,000 well-wishers who cheered, "We want Dole!" At one point, the Senator answered, "You're going to get him!" (Staff Photo)

Dole in New Hampshire GOP Primary

EXETER, N.H. (UPI) — Senate Majority Leader Robert Dole of Kansas came to the New England birthplace of the Republican Party Monday to formally announce his run in the New Hampshire presidential primary.

"Tempered by adversity, seasoned by experience, mindful of the world as it is, yet confident it can be made better. I have come to New Hampshire with a grateful heart to declare that I am a candidate for the presidency of the United States," Dole said.

Framed by the red-bricked picturesque Exeter Town Hall, Dole told a crowd of 750 people, which included a noisy contingent of protesters, to embark with him on a journey to "lead America back to our place in the sun."

At 71, Dole is the oldest, and so far the leader of the pack of GOP candidates according to New Hampshire primary polls. In his address, the senior Kansas Senator said he wanted to lead the revolu-

tion started in the U.S. Congress with the GOP contract with America last fall. He promised Congress would give the president a line-item veto and eventually pass a balanced budget amendment.

"In giving Washington our responsibility to address problems at there source, Americans have unwittingly encouraged the federal government to become too large, too remote, too unresponsive and too undemocratic to be representative. And that is what this election is all about," Dole said.

Staking out solid conservative positions during the announcement speech, Dole echoed GOP claims to reduce taxes and still lower the federal budget deficit. He attacked social programs ranging from affirmative action to federally subsidized housing.

"It's time for the federal government to get out of the landlord business," he said to applause and some boos from the crowd.

Dole also promised as president

he would move to abolish the Department of Education and would send the money saved back to the states. He added that he could eliminate 77,000 federal jobs by closing the departments of Commerce, Housing and Urban Development and Education.

"There is another America waiting... an America strong of heart and sure of mind. And I would like to lead us there to that other America," Dole said.

Dole, who alluded to his combat service in World War II, which crippled him, was surrounded on the Exeter stage with prominent Republican lawmakers and military veterans from conflicts ranging from Korea to Vietnam.

Flanking Dole were New Hampshire Sen. Judd Gregg and Reps. Bill Zelliff and Charles Bass. For-

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Dole in —

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mer U.S. Sen. Warren Rudman also joined Dole on the stage.

As a world power, Dole said America should not be afraid to show military strength, but he said American troops should be used for national interests and be independent of United Nations control.

Dole was booed by some members of the crowd when he said the federal government should stop subsidizing the arts and public broadcasting.

Dole, Clinton need each other

By Thomas Oliphant
The Boston Globe

Here's the formula:
You take one part Bob Dole, the Senate majority leader.
Then you add one part Tom Daschle, the rookie Senate minority leader.
Next, throw in one part President Clinton.
And finally, you simply forget about the House of Representatives, and there's the rub.

The revealing and important action in Congress last week had nothing to do with a fiscally irresponsible, special interest-dominated, rich people-tilted tax bill that will have no standing whatsoever when — or if — the Senate considers tax legislation later this year.

Instead, the big show as far as the country's future was concerned was where the television cameras weren't, in two dissimilar meeting rooms — a small one in the Capitol itself, and the fancy lair of the Senate Appropriations Committee.

What was at issue within the Senate and between it and the Clinton administration was the grubby business of actually reducing the budget deficit and performing the necessary functions of the government. The message from a series of meetings leading to a deceptively unanimous Senate vote was that what the public properly wants, namely results, is more than possible on the difficult terrain of divided government.

"More than possible," however, isn't enough. For last week's halting attempt at governance to work, Newt Gingrich's House will have to learn from Bob Dole's Senate. If the House balks at the Senate's responsible behavior, the odds will increase that a horrendous governmental train wreck could occur this fall.

The budget work was made necessary by two Clinton requests for supplemental funds in the current fiscal year, which ends Oct. 1 — \$3.1 billion for additional military expenses incurred in recent operations, principally Haiti and Somalia; and \$6.7 billion for the disaster relief operations in California. In the wake of last November's elections, there was no way these extra expenses were going to be funded without offsetting spending cuts. How to do it was the question.

Also in the wake of the elections, it was clear that the Republican Congress would try to go deeper into this year's budget to make cuts that could serve as a kind of down payment on the far larger, and far more difficult budget decisions still to be made if the deficit is to be reduced significantly below \$200 billion anytime soon.

Gingrich's House approached the issue as if it were an item in its famous Contract. There was an initial stab at making up for the Pentagon's money with cuts in domestic programs. Much more irresponsibly, its list of cuts for the larger bill placed virtually all the burden on

the needy, while taking mean-spirited swipes at Clinton initiatives that enjoy bipartisan support, notably the national service program.

And most ominously of all, the House wailed on a commitment that the cuts would be for deficit reduction, making them available for its irresponsible, still-unfunded tax cuts. Because of these and other preposterous breaches of maturity, the House measure lost any veneer of bipartisanship and had no steam behind it in the Senate.

Using only his Republicans, Dole couldn't construct a bill that would withstand a Democratic filibuster or override a Clinton veto. But after three-cornered talks with Daschle and Clinton chief of staff Leon Panetta, such a bill did emerge late last week. It spread the burden of the cuts well beyond the destitute; it was tough, but fair.

Senate liberals initially balked, but then acquiesced. Senate right-wingers also yelped, but then fell in line. Progress and compromise trumped gridlock and ideological posturing.

In the forthcoming Senate-House conference committee, Gingrich can wreck the deal. For it to survive, Dole, Daschle and Clinton must stick together — a tall order.

Last week's maneuvering, however, showed that serious work can get done this year before the politics of '96 legitimately intervene. And it was fitting that it all occurred just as Gingrich's pointless Contract was passing into history.

Dole backs school prayer, blasts TV

The Associated Press
DES MOINES, Iowa — Moving to shore up his conservative credentials, Bob Dole called for voluntary school prayer Tuesday and lashed out at Hollywood for promoting "casual violence and even more casual sex."

"We began as a people seeking religious freedom and have evolved into a nation whose government often seems the enemy of religion," the Republican presidential front-runner said as he campaigned in Ohio and Iowa. "The moral code we nurture in our churches and synagogues is under attack from our government."

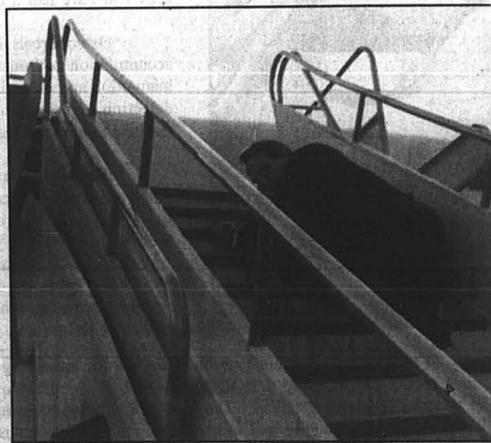
Dole's overture to conservatives included tough talk on welfare reform and a promise to phase out federal funding for the arts and humanities, longtime

targets of the Christian right. And he accused President Clinton of contributing to the nation's moral decline by abdicating leadership in the war on drugs.

Dole's courting of social conservatives came just a day after he made a major gesture to economic conservatives: pledging not to raise income taxes if elected president next year.

Taken together, the remarks underscored Dole's principal goal on his weeklong campaign announcement tour: to cement his position as the front-runner by strengthening his support among the conservative factions ascendant in GOP politics.

To rivals, these might be viewed as concessions to shore up weaknesses. But the Senate majority leader rejected that char-



Associated Press photo
Kansas Sen. Bob Dole catches himself after falling on some portable stairs at Pease International Trade Port in Portsmouth N.H. Monday. Dole was not injured.

Dole campaigns on theme of values

Attacks on religion have gone too far, he says

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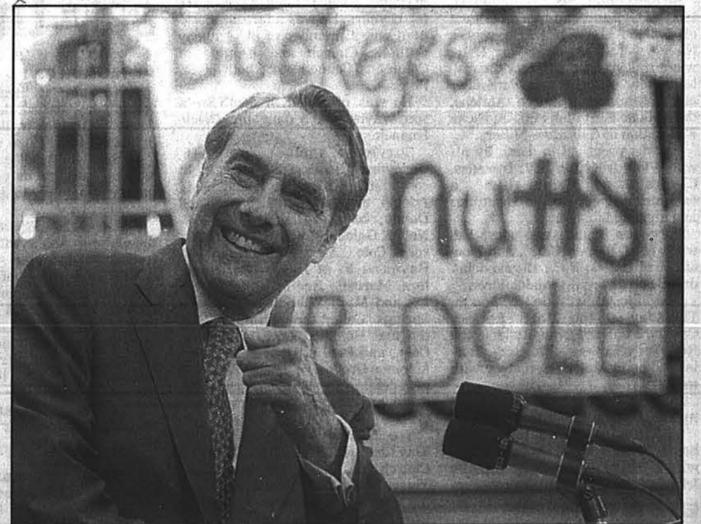
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He said he signed the tax pledge, after refusing to do so in his failed 1988 campaign,



The Associated Press
Sen. Bob Dole signals thumbs-up to a group of World War II 10th Mountain Division veterans listening to his speech at a campaign stop Tuesday in Columbus, Ohio.

because this year's version allowed for the closing of loopholes.

As for his comments on values, Dole said that he had a proven conservative record on social issues but that it had received little attention in the context of his Senate career.

Nonetheless, in dropping his usual reluctance to discuss social issues Dole highlighted the importance of religious conservative voters, and the competition among GOP contenders for their support. He made values the centerpiece of speeches at Ohio and Iowa.

Wading into the school prayer debate, Dole said: "If students can discuss sports and music or drama at school they should also be allowed to voluntarily — voluntarily — pray."