

Dole a clear favorite in Iowa caucus

Battle for second place shaping up

By Hearst Newspapers
DES MOINES, Iowa — Since Iowa is Bob Dole country among the state's Republicans, the hot race in next February's GOP presidential caucuses is for runner-up.

Placing second in Iowa, however, may be a prize worth having because the number 2 candidate could quickly become the front-runner during the rest of the campaign if the Senate majority leader falters.

As William Schneider, a Washington-based political analyst, puts it, a candidate who "comes reasonably close to Dole could be a significant contender."

According to a poll released last month, Dole captured 49.3 percent of those likely to attend Iowa caucuses. Every other GOP candidate was far behind. Even a popular noncandidate, retired Gen. Colin Powell, the former chairman of



Dole

the Joint Chiefs of Staff who is a hot name in pundit land, barely registered, with 2 percent.

The survey, conducted by PSI, an Alexandria, Va., firm that specializes in midwestern politics, found that Texas Sen. Phil Gramm had 9.7 percent of likely Iowa caucus-goers and TV commentator Pat Buchanan had 4.7 percent.

Others actively campaigning here are GOP Sens. Arlen Specter of Pennsylvania and Richard Lugar of Indiana. Less visible are former Tennessee Gov. Lamar Alexander, California Rep. Robert Dornan and talk radio host Alan Keyes of Baltimore. California Gov. Pete Wilson, an undeclared candidate, is expected to visit the state later this month.

Brian Kennedy, the GOP chairman here, says that the "growing perception here is that Iowa is Dole's state. He has all the bases covered. He's small town, Midwestern, right on the issues, has

cultural affinity with Iowans and is running a good campaign."

Steve Gibbs, Dole's Iowa campaign manager, downplays the senator's strength, saying he will do well in the caucuses to match his 37.4 percent showing here in 1988. But Gibbs said Dole is ahead because "people here are comfortable with him, know him and trust him, and view him as one of their own."

Bob Haus, Gramm's campaign manager here, and John Humeston, one of Alexander's chief operatives, agree.

"Our job is to come in (a) close second," Haus said. "Let's face it, this was Dole's best state in 1988 when he defeated George Bush."

Humeston concedes that "realistically everyone is fighting to be number 2."

Dole has also won endorsements from such prominent Iowa Republicans as Gov. Terry Branstad, Sen. Charles E. Grassley, former Gov. Robert Ray and Rep. Jim

Leach. Darrell Kearney, Jack Kemp's campaign manager here in 1988, and Steve Scheffler, political director of Iowa's Christian Coalition, are also backing Dole.

Kennedy offered brief comments on the rest of the GOP field. He said Gramm started "strong, but appears to have somewhat faltered." Gramm, who just opened a campaign headquarters here last week, "hasn't performed as well as expected," Kennedy added.

Alexander, he said, "is well positioned, very steady, well organized, with a good staff, but not wowing anyone. The big question is whether he can catch fire."

Kennedy said Buchanan has "put together key organization people in the state, and his recent swing through the conservative northern part of the state was effective."

Specter, Kennedy said, is "running for the most part a single-issue campaign — pro-choice on abortion. It's possible he may manage to attract a hard-core group of supporters who will attend caucuses and make a surprising showing."

But Kennedy said that "Lugar is the one to watch. Lugar's premise is that if Dole falters, he will become the alternative candidate."

Page 2—The Russell Daily News, Tuesday, May 9, 1995

Talking With Kansans Senator Bob Dole



V-E Day — 50th Anniversary

Statement by Senate Majority Leader Bob Dole

Fifty years ago Sunday the guns were silenced in Europe, and that continent was at last freed from the tyrants who had plunged it into war. And across the world on May 8, 1945, there were moments that are remembered today, and will be remembered for generations to come.

Here in Washington, at the White House, President Harry S. Truman spoke to the American people by radio, with these dramatic words: "This is a solemn and glorious hour. I only wish that Franklin Roosevelt had lived to witness this day. General Eisenhower informs me that the forces of Germany have surrendered to the United Nations. The flags of freedom fly all over Europe."

In New York City, half a million people crowded into Times Square; and in main streets and town squares across America, smaller crowds gathered to celebrate.

In Paris, the boulevards that Hitler and his armies had once controlled were free again, and the French people rallied under the Arc de Triomphe.

And in London, Winston Churchill spoke before a large crowd, telling the people of Britain, "This is your victory." And many in the crowd shouted back that the victory was his. Later that night, the floodlights illuminated Buckingham Palace, Big Ben, and St. Paul's Cathedral for the first time in six years.

Remembering the Lessons of World War II

Anniversary celebrations are a time for remembering the past, but they are also a time for looking to the future. And as we celebrate this 50th anniversary for the Allied victory, let us remember the lessons that World War II taught us — lessons that hold for us still.

We learned that we can not turn our backs on what happens in the rest of the world. We learned that we can never again allow our military to reach low levels of readiness and supplies. We learned that we cannot appease tyrants and despots.

And, perhaps above all, we learned the critical importance of American leadership.

Yes, before our involvement, Britain courageously fought on against the odds. And, yes, Russia, after initially siding with the Axis powers, helped to turn the tide when the Nazis turned against them.

Importance of American Leadership

But, the war could not have been won and would not have been won without the commitment, the manpower, and the leadership of the United States. It's that simple.

It was American leadership that built the arsenal of democracy which made victory possible. It was American leadership that held the Allies together through the darkest days of the war. And it was American leadership which conquered the forces of tyranny and restored liberty and democracy to Europe.

And when I talk about leadership, I don't mean just the famous names of Roosevelt, Truman, Eisenhower, Marshall, Churchill, and de Gaulle. And I don't just mean the soldiers who fought their way across Europe and the Pacific. For we must also thank those who served at home — the Gold Star moms, the factory workers, and the farmers. Without their contribution and their sacrifice, the war effort could not have been successful.

Celebrate Triumph of Democracy

So, today is a day for all of us to celebrate the triumph of democracy, and to honor those who served and those who paid the ultimate price on behalf of their country.

And the best way we can for that is to rededicate ourselves to the promise that President Reagan made on behalf of America on the beaches of Normandy 11 years ago: "We will always remember. We will always be proud. We will always be prepared, so we may always be free."

4A THE WICHITA EAGLE Thursday, May 11, 1995

Doles decide to leave this church to Clintons

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Doles and the Clintons, political rivals who once found common ground on Sunday mornings, no longer worship under the same roof.

Sen. Bob Dole and Elizabeth Hanford Dole have stopped attending the Foundry United Methodist Church, a mile north of the White House, where President Clinton and Hillary Rodham Clinton go to services about twice a month.

A friend of the Doles, declining to be identified, said the Doles considered the pastor of the 180-year-old church too liberal.

"The Doles have been attending several evangelical churches in the Washington area that more accurately reflect their Christian belief," he said, although Elizabeth Dole remains a member of Foundry.

In addition to worshipping at Foundry, Dole was one of its financial supporters. Senators are required to give to charity the payments they receive for making speeches and in 1993, his financial disclosure forms show, he received \$69,450 in such honoraria and gave \$13,000 to Foundry. In 1992, he gave Foundry \$8,000. Senate financial disclosure forms for 1994 have not yet been made public.

In his Foundry sermons, the Rev. J. Philip Wogaman often strikes a liberal note, embracing feminism, decrying intolerance toward gays, supporting health care reform. A recent church newsletter criticized the GOP's Contract With America.

A recent column by syndicated writer Cal Thomas was critical of Wogaman's "theological and political liberalism," which he said of-

fered "moral nurture" for the Clintons' political views. Wogaman said the article distorted his views and seemed to be using the Clintons' religion "as a way to oppose their politics."

Through spokesmen, Dole, the Senate majority leader and a candidate for the Republican presidential nomination, and Elizabeth Dole, president of the American Red Cross, declined comment.

In a 1988 book she co-authored with her husband, Elizabeth Dole wrote how she found "a caring, sensitive pastor" in Edward Bauman, Wogaman's predecessor at Foundry.

And this spring, in an interview, she mentioned often seeing the Clintons at Foundry. But the Clintons sat up front and the Doles sat near the rear, so they did not run into one another, she said.

Wogaman said that out of respect for their privacy he would not discuss whether the Doles have stopped attending.

"I can confirm that Senator and Mrs. Dole have been valued participants in Foundry Church for a number of years, and I'm sure they understand that they are warmly welcomed here," Wogaman said. "We want to be understanding and supportive of both the Doles and the Clintons amid the heavy political pressures they face and we hope people will not make an issue of their church attendance."

Clinton is a Southern Baptist and still belongs to Immanuel Baptist Church in Little Rock, Ark., where he sang in the choir. Friends say he worships at Foundry because he likes Wogaman and likes attending church with his wife and daughter, Chelsea, both Methodists.

Page 2—The Russell Daily News, Saturday, May 20, 1995

EDITORIAL PAGE

Republicans Keeping Faith With Bob Dole

Senate Majority Leader Bob Dole remains the heavy favorite for the 1996 Republican nomination, now only about 15 months away.

At this time, Dole's challengers appear to be making little headway as they hopscotch the country raising money forming campaign teams, making speeches and kissing babies.

And to help come across better with Republicans and with people in general, Dole is keeping his well-known temper in check, and a majority of people now consider him "a nice guy." In Russell, we've always known this, and it is heartening to know that now Americans throughout the land also are learning this truth.

Dole is the favorite of more than half of the GOP members questioned in a recent poll. He outscored his closest rivals, Texas Senator Phil Gramm and California Governor Pete Wilson, by more than 4 to 1.

But with the first caucus and primary balloting in Iowa and New Hampshire still nine months away, the GOP contest is far from over.

Looking back in history, the political landscape is strewn with the bones of early-presidential front-runners: Bob Taft, Edmund Muskie, George Romney and Gary Hart come to mind.

Stephen Hess, a Brookings Institution presidential scholar, says "It's clearly Dole's to lose." Ask President Romney or President Muskie.

Most Americans are not yet focused on the 1996 race and won't begin to pay serious attention until early next year.

"Until that time we have to continue doing our blocking and our tackling so we'll be ready to play when the game begins," says Gramm strategist Charles Black.

Dole today is reaping the benefits of three previous presidential runs, long congressional service and outstanding hard work for Republican candidates in previous contests, which have made him the best known among the field of nine hopefuls.

But the picture can always change, and sometimes change fast. The nomination, at this time, certainly is not in the bag.

Dole and Clinton, by last count, are running neck and neck. The margin for Clinton, which now stands about a point above Dole's percentage at 49 to 47 percent, has shown a marked improvement from a survey in February that had Dole ahead 51 percent to 44 percent for the Arkansas Democrat.

It is believed that Clinton's recovery is largely due to recent events that have put the president in center stage and given him national publicity.

Dole's standing may have been hurt because the Republicans, primarily the Contract With America people — are "biting the bullet" on spending cuts in an attempt to balance the federal budget by the year 2002, and voters who take it on the chin are not likely to vote for the people who cut their throats.

So, be careful Contract With America. What you are attempting to do is important for the future welfare of the country, but don't get too severe too fast, or you will cause serious dislocations in the economy and re-elect Bill Clinton to another four-year term. — A.D.E.