

Dole seems to have recognized political value of bully pulpit

Senator suddenly has whole range of concerns

By JILL LAWRENCE
The Associated Press

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With his assault on Hollywood values, the consummate nuts-and-bolts legislator is turning to the bully pulpit and larger themes. At the same time, he's deflecting attention from the sticky uncertainties of

the Senate.

The balanced budget amendment to the Constitution died for lack of one vote, sweeping House-passed legal reforms were substantially weakened, Republicans are feuding over tax cuts and Dr. Henry Foster may be confirmed as surgeon general despite adamant opposition by Dole and social conservatives.

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And what of the influential social conservatives who have been skeptical of Dole's commitment to their issues?

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Dole

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Dole steps up to bully pulpit

By Jill Lawrence
Associated Press Writer

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"The most severe problems facing the country right now are not ones that lend themselves to easy legislative solutions," Bauer says. "Using the bully pulpit may be the most important role the next president has."

I work as a counselor, so I am very aware of people's personalities. Though Bob Dole will deny it, he strikes me as a very angry man, and we don't need an angry man running this country. In your opinion, is my analysis correct?
—Jim Smith, Staten Island, N.Y.

It's true that critics have called Senate Majority Leader Bob Dole (R., Kan.) "the Don Rickles of American politics"—abrasive in manner and sharp of tongue. His personality tripped him up during two previous runs for the GOP Presidential nomination, and this time he is trying to present a softer, kinder image. Those close to Dole—including a number of his Senate colleagues as well as his wife, Elizabeth Hanford Dole, 58—insist that, beneath his stern exterior, the 71-year-old politician is actually a very sensitive man. "I'm trying to smile more," he tells PARADE.



Senator Dole: Try harder

Parade 6/4/95

SUNDAY JUNE 4, 1995 THE HAYS DAILY NEWS

Dole switches gears in race

He leaves Senate uncertainties behind to attack popular themes

By JILL LAWRENCE
Associated Press

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Last week in Montana, motivated in part by the Oklahoma City bombing, he implored people to disagree in civilized ways. In May, he hosted a conference on character-building and the importance of the family. This month, Clinton has invited community leaders to search for common ground on social problems.

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DOLE: Previous mistake was focus on Congress

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2 MONDAY JUNE 5, 1995 THE HAYS DAILY NEWS

Dole says Foster could be approved if filibuster were cleared

By KEITH BRADSHAW
N.Y. Times News Service

WASHINGTON — Sen. Bob Dole said Sunday that there were enough votes in the Senate to approve Dr. Henry W. Foster Jr. as surgeon general if he could clear the expected filibuster intended to hold up the nomination.

Dole, the majority leader who is also a presidential aspirant, said last month that he might not bring Foster's nomination up for floor debate at all. And while he avoided making any commitment Sunday, his comment, on the NBC News program "Meet the Press," that a majority of the Senate supports Foster might make it more difficult for the Kansas Republican to avoid holding the debate.

"If those opposed to him have 41 votes, there'll never be a vote. If it gets beyond that, I think that, yes, the votes are there."

— Sen. Bob Dole

Sen. Phil Gramm, the conservative Texas Republican who is also seeking the presidency, has threatened a filibuster and there is no assurance that Foster's supporters can stop him. Supporters of the Tennessee doctor need only 50 votes for his confirmation — Vice President Al Gore can break a tie — but they need 60 votes to stop a filibuster.

Dole said Sunday that a vote on the nomination itself would not be held if opponents of the nomination can gather the 41 votes needed to sustain a filibuster.

"If those opposed to him have 41 votes, there'll never be a vote," the senator said. "If it gets beyond that, I think that, yes, the votes are there."

Both Dole and Gramm have been actively wooing conservatives in their campaigns for the presidential nomination. The Christian Coalition, a conservative group that opposes abortion, has led the opposition to Foster because the 61-year-old obstetrician-gynecologist has acknowledged that he performed at least 39 abortions during his 38-year medical

career. The coalition's officials have said they will measure Republican candidates at the polls next year by their votes on sustaining a filibuster against Foster.

Calvin Mitchell, a spokesman for President Clinton, welcomed Dole's comment that there were enough votes to approve the nomination.

"We believe that Dr. Foster's nomination if brought forward to a full vote in the Senate will be successful once the American people and the members of the Senate understand that his record makes him very qualified to be the nation's doctor," Mitchell said. "We'd welcome a vote."

Dole also repeated Sunday his previous criticisms of Democratic senators for proposing more than 60

amendments to President Clinton's counter-terrorism proposal, which was intended as a response to the April bombing of the Federal Building in Oklahoma City. Debate on the measure will not proceed until some of the amendments are withdrawn, Dole said.

"I'm not going to spend two weeks on this bill to satisfy every Democrat who wants to make some political points," he said.

Yet, Dole did say he favored one of President Clinton's specific proposals, which would require that explosive materials be tagged with tiny plastic particles to make them easier to trace. The fertilizer industry and many Republicans oppose the provision, but Dole said Sunday, "I don't have any problem with that."

THE TOPEKA CAPITAL JOURNAL Tuesday, June 6, 1995

Dole may have hand in selecting judge

By GENE SMITH
The Capital-Journal

A spokeswoman for Sen. Bob Dole said Monday that he expects the White House to consult with him in nominating a new federal judge in Kansas.

U.S. District Judge Patrick Kelley took senior status Thursday, opening a vacancy for a new presidential appointment. In anticipation of that, an advisory merit screening committee interviewed 17 applicants this spring and forwarded the names of six to a selection committee composed of current and former Democratic officeholders plus the state Democratic chairman.

That committee is expected to recommend two or three to the White House. However, both Linda Trigg, president of the Kansas Bar Association, and former Congressman Jim Slattery stressed the president is free to select someone else entirely. Slattery predicted the administration is likely to consult with both Dole and Sen. Nancy Kassebaum before making a choice. The Dole staffer said there are

"no plans at this point to block it (the nomination) or slow it at all. We know there are many highly qualified folks in Kansas for this nomination, so there are no plans to block it — but that of course really depends on the quality of the nominees."

The six forwarded to the selection committee include Karen Humphries, federal magistrate judge in Wichita; Brian Moline, chief counsel for the Kansas Insurance Department; Kay Royse, a member of the Kansas Court of Appeals; Bruce Kent, Small Business Administration regional director; Tom Martens, McPherson lawyer and former Harvard law professor; and Lee Kinch, Wichita lawyer.

The judgeship is a lifetime appointment; it currently pays \$133,000 a year.

Although the 65-year-old Kelley took senior status, he is expected to remain almost as busy in semi-retirement as he was as a full-time judge. The chief difference is now he will have more freedom to choose cases he wants to hear.