

Dole brushes off right's dislike of top aide

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Senate Majority Leader Bob Dole said Sunday he's keeping his chief of staff despite conservatives' dislike of her, but hinted she won't be his top adviser if he wins the White House.

"Sheila Burke does a good job. She's a good loyal staff member — been there for 17 years," the GOP presidential front-runner said on ABC's "This Week with David Brinkley."

"I think she has the respect of almost every senator, lots of House members in both parties."

Asked why conservatives have targeted Burke, Dole said: "Maybe it's an attempt to get at me through staff. That's occurred to me, but some of the people who have been after her have been pretty friendly to me."

In a story Sunday in The New York Times Magazine, the Kansas Republican said: "These guys, the old-boy network, some of them may not like women."

Conservatives have criticized Burke in recent months for allegedly pushing her self-described "social moderate" views on her boss.

Asked if Burke would be his chief of staff if he became president, Dole said: "I think I'd probably want someone with her skills, but also with political skills, which she does not have."

Unlike Dole, Burke is pro-choice. But she told The New York Times she agrees with Dole's positions in the main and does not influence him overly.

The suggestion that Bob Dole is led by anyone, female or male, in a direction he doesn't want to go is laughable on the face of it," Burke told the magazine.

She also criticized "conscious attempts to bring my gender into the debate," and did not attempt to placate critics.

"I'm strong-willed and I'm independent and I see women as fully capable as men of doing anything they choose. And I'm not apologetic about any of that," she said.

Critics question Dole's use of his PAC

Continued from page 1-A

from salaries and travel expenses of strategists to the purchase of a membership list from the Iowa Republican Party. Eight Campaign America strategists have since shifted to Dole's presidential campaign, including fund-raiser Jo-Anne Coe, finance expert Royal Roth and national field director Scott Matter.

Earlier this year, the AP found that another of Dole's organizations, his tax-exempt Better America foundation, was spending money on items useful for a presidential bid — including a poll, issues papers and a TV ad that prominently featured Dole. Dole subsequently closed down the foundation.

Critics wonder whether Dole is crossing the line again.

"The question is, what were these people doing out there in the field?" said Ellen Miller, director of the non-partisan Center For Responsive Politics, which studies campaign

finance issues in Washington. "The evidence suggests that Campaign America was nothing more than a presidential campaign slush fund."

Dole campaign spokesman Nelson Warfield says the PAC has "maintained a bright-line rule that strictly separated it from any Dole campaign activities."

FEC records show considerable overlap between the campaign and the PAC, both in staff and operations.

For instance, Campaign America and the presidential campaign use many of the same consultants and contractors, right down to the same printing shop in Des Moines, Iowa. And Dole's campaign recently paid the PAC

more than \$29,000 for office furniture. So does it cross the line?

"That's a proper question to ask, but I can't tell you the number of times we've called from the national office telling us to make sure we're comporting with the FEC law," said Brian Berry, a former Campaign America worker in Texas.

"We trained people with a 'fear of God' approach — the message was, 'you make a mistake here, and you hurt Bob Dole, you hurt Campaign America and you hurt the cause you're trying to help,'" he said.

Berry said the PAC's focus in 1994 wasn't to help Dole but rather "concentrating on close races, helping Republicans get elected" at the state and local level.

For his efforts, Berry was paid \$37,000 in salary and expenses in 1994. Berry shifted briefly to Dole's campaign this spring but has since left.

Sal Russo, a Sacramento-based Republican consultant, said there is a thin, often-blurry line between permissible PAC activities — such as party-building or making donations to state and local candidates — and wooing

potential organizers and supporters for a presidential bid.

He cited the example of Brian Lungren, a Dole supporter in California who received \$24,000 in salary and expenses from the PAC between June 1994 and February 1995 and later worked briefly for Dole's presidential bid.

"If Brian was doing the PAC's business, that still helps (Dole) in anything he decides to do in the future," Russo noted. "Obviously, there are lots of things you can do to make yourself a better presidential candidate, like going out and giving money to these guys. Then, they get behind you later."

Records show that Dole's PAC provided more than \$625,000 to Republicans running in federal races around the country last year, and another \$185,000 to candidates running in state and local contests.

Dole announced a month ago that he was turning control of the PAC over to former Vice President Dan Quayle so he can spend more time on his presidential campaign.

A2 Thursday, November 2, 1995

Dole introduces conservation bill

Wetland rules would be altered

By The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Regulations on key programs for erosion control and wetlands conservation would be overhauled and farmers could put more land into production under legislation introduced Wednesday by Sen. Bob Dole, R-Kan.

The Resource Enhancement Act would make a series of changes in the Conservation Reserve Program, which idles land subject to erosion. It also would change agricultural rules governing wetlands and alter the way farm conservation rules are enforced.

"It guts either the integrity of the statute or the ability to enforce it."

— Ken Cook, Environmental Working Group

"In my view, it is a remedy desperately needed to save farmers from a terminal case of over-regulation," said Dole, the Senate majority leader.

A co-sponsor, Senate Agriculture Committee Chairman Dick Lugar, R-Ind., said the bill would "be good for the environment and protective of the property rights of farmers. The measure will become part of the 1995 farm bill.

Environmental groups contend ed the bill would shoot current

conservation laws so full of holes it would essentially cripple the programs, most of which were first enacted in 1985.

"It guts either the integrity of the statute or the ability to enforce it," said Ken Cook, president of the Environmental Working Group. "It would just be a tremendous setback."

Under the legislation, the programs would expire at the end of the 1995 farm bill in 2002 — the first time such a "sunset" provi

sion has been attached. Republicans in Congress want to cut farm subsidy spending by \$13.4 billion over next seven years, continuing a trend Dole said has begun. Dole said there is little point in continuing to tie dwindling farm program payments to compliance with so-called "Swampbuster" laws aimed at conserving wetlands.

"If we aim to fulfill the intent of conservation and wetlands laws, and we should, we must adjust to today's conditions," Dole said.

The proposed "Swampbuster" exemptions include parcels of one acre or less, drainage or irrigation ditches, artificial lakes or ponds used for agricultural purposes and land that was planted in crops at least six of the 10 years before the law's enactment in 1985.

A8 Friday, November 3, 1995

Dole launches TV ads in Iowa

By The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — GOP frontrunner Bob Dole is ready to air the first TV ad of his presidential campaign, comparing the balanced budget and tax cuts he helped push through Congress with President Clinton's "liberal agenda."

The Senate majority leader does not mention his rivals for the Republican nomination in the 30-second ad, to begin airing today in three Iowa cities.



Bob Dole

"Bob Dole leads the fight against the Clinton agenda," the ad says. "Dole rallies the nation and Congress passes historic conservative reforms: true middle-class tax cuts, the first balanced budget in a generation, real welfare reform putting people back to work."

"The decision to begin airing TV ads comes at a time when Dole's big early lead in Iowa has slipped somewhat."

"The campaign is moving into full swing," said Darrell Kearney, Dole's Iowa campaign manager. "It's time."

Continued on page 1A, col. 1

second ad, to begin airing today in three Iowa cities.

"Bob Dole leads the fight against the Clinton agenda," the ad says. "Dole rallies the nation and Congress passes historic conservative reforms: true middle-class tax cuts, the first balanced budget in a generation, real welfare reform putting people back to work."

"The decision to begin airing TV ads comes at a time when Dole's big early lead in Iowa has slipped somewhat."

"The campaign is moving into full swing," said Darrell Kearney, Dole's Iowa campaign manager.

It's time.

Texas Sen. Phil Gramm is campaigning hard in the state, hoping it presents a better opportunity to wound Dole than New Hampshire, where Gramm's effort has lagged. Iowa's caucuses and the New Hampshire primary take place in February.

Elizabeth Dole joked about any comparisons between Dole and President Clinton.

"Actually his (Dole's) blood pressure, his weight and his cholesterol are lower than President Clinton's, but we won't make health the issue," she said. "I can assure you he's got the energy of 10 people."

Dole moved early in his campaign to deflect questions about his age by releasing his medical records. Elizabeth Dole said her husband's hectic campaign schedule proves his health and vigor.

Elizabeth Dole joked about any comparisons between Dole and President Clinton.

"Actually his (Dole's) blood pressure, his weight and his cholesterol are lower than President Clinton's, but we won't make health the issue," she said. "I can assure you he's got the energy of 10 people."

The issue is something of a balancing act for Dole, who stresses his long experience in Washington when he is appealing to Republican activists who take part in Iowa's leadoff precinct caucuses.

Elizabeth Dole joked about any comparisons between Dole and President Clinton.

"Actually his (Dole's) blood pressure, his weight and his cholesterol are lower than President Clinton's, but we won't make health the issue," she said. "I can assure you he's got the energy of 10 people."

Dole moved early in his campaign to deflect questions about his age by releasing his medical records. Elizabeth Dole said her husband's hectic campaign schedule proves his health and vigor.

Elizabeth Dole joked about any comparisons between Dole and President Clinton.

"Actually his (Dole's) blood pressure, his weight and his cholesterol are lower than President Clinton's, but we won't make health the issue," she said. "I can assure you he's got the energy of 10 people."

Dole moved early in his campaign to deflect questions about his age by releasing his medical records. Elizabeth Dole said her husband's hectic campaign schedule proves his health and vigor.

Elizabeth Dole joked about any comparisons between Dole and President Clinton.

"Actually his (Dole's) blood pressure, his weight and his cholesterol are lower than President Clinton's, but we won't make health the issue," she said. "I can assure you he's got the energy of 10 people."

Dole moved early in his campaign to deflect questions about his age by releasing his medical records. Elizabeth Dole said her husband's hectic campaign schedule proves his health and vigor.

Elizabeth Dole joked about any comparisons between Dole and President Clinton.

"Actually his (Dole's) blood pressure, his weight and his cholesterol are lower than President Clinton's, but we won't make health the issue," she said. "I can assure you he's got the energy of 10 people."

Dole moved early in his campaign to deflect questions about his age by releasing his medical records. Elizabeth Dole said her husband's hectic campaign schedule proves his health and vigor.

Elizabeth Dole joked about any comparisons between Dole and President Clinton.

"Actually his (Dole's) blood pressure, his weight and his cholesterol are lower than President Clinton's, but we won't make health the issue," she said. "I can assure you he's got the energy of 10 people."

Dole moved early in his campaign to deflect questions about his age by releasing his medical records. Elizabeth Dole said her husband's hectic campaign schedule proves his health and vigor.

Elizabeth Dole joked about any comparisons between Dole and President Clinton.

"Actually his (Dole's) blood pressure, his weight and his cholesterol are lower than President Clinton's, but we won't make health the issue," she said. "I can assure you he's got the energy of 10 people."

Dole moved early in his campaign to deflect questions about his age by releasing his medical records. Elizabeth Dole said her husband's hectic campaign schedule proves his health and vigor.

Elizabeth Dole joked about any comparisons between Dole and President Clinton.

"Actually his (Dole's) blood pressure, his weight and his cholesterol are lower than President Clinton's, but we won't make health the issue," she said. "I can assure you he's got the energy of 10 people."

Dole moved early in his campaign to deflect questions about his age by releasing his medical records. Elizabeth Dole said her husband's hectic campaign schedule proves his health and vigor.

Elizabeth Dole joked about any comparisons between Dole and President Clinton.

"Actually his (Dole's) blood pressure, his weight and his cholesterol are lower than President Clinton's, but we won't make health the issue," she said. "I can assure you he's got the energy of 10 people."

Dole moved early in his campaign to deflect questions about his age by releasing his medical records. Elizabeth Dole said her husband's hectic campaign schedule proves his health and vigor.

Elizabeth Dole joked about any comparisons between Dole and President Clinton.

"Actually his (Dole's) blood pressure, his weight and his cholesterol are lower than President Clinton's, but we won't make health the issue," she said. "I can assure you he's got the energy of 10 people."

Dole moved early in his campaign to deflect questions about his age by releasing his medical records. Elizabeth Dole said her husband's hectic campaign schedule proves his health and vigor.

Elizabeth Dole joked about any comparisons between Dole and President Clinton.

"Actually his (Dole's) blood pressure, his weight and his cholesterol are lower than President Clinton's, but we won't make health the issue," she said. "I can assure you he's got the energy of 10 people."

Dole moved early in his campaign to deflect questions about his age by releasing his medical records. Elizabeth Dole said her husband's hectic campaign schedule proves his health and vigor.

Elizabeth Dole joked about any comparisons between Dole and President Clinton.

"Actually his (Dole's) blood pressure, his weight and his cholesterol are lower than President Clinton's, but we won't make health the issue," she said. "I can assure you he's got the energy of 10 people."

Dole moved early in his campaign to deflect questions about his age by releasing his medical records. Elizabeth Dole said her husband's hectic campaign schedule proves his health and vigor.

Elizabeth Dole joked about any comparisons between Dole and President Clinton.

"Actually his (Dole's) blood pressure, his weight and his cholesterol are lower than President Clinton's, but we won't make health the issue," she said. "I can assure you he's got the energy of 10 people."

Dole moved early in his campaign to deflect questions about his age by releasing his medical records. Elizabeth Dole said her husband's hectic campaign schedule proves his health and vigor.

Elizabeth Dole joked about any comparisons between Dole and President Clinton.

"Actually his (Dole's) blood pressure, his weight and his cholesterol are lower than President Clinton's, but we won't make health the issue," she said. "I can assure you he's got the energy of 10 people."

Dole moved early in his campaign to deflect questions about his age by releasing his medical records. Elizabeth Dole said her husband's hectic campaign schedule proves his health and vigor.

Elizabeth Dole joked about any comparisons between Dole and President Clinton.

"Actually his (Dole's) blood pressure, his weight and his cholesterol are lower than President Clinton's, but we won't make health the issue," she said. "I can assure you he's got the energy of 10 people."

Dole moved early in his campaign to deflect questions about his age by releasing his medical records. Elizabeth Dole said her husband's hectic campaign schedule proves his health and vigor.

Elizabeth Dole joked about any comparisons between Dole and President Clinton.

"Actually his (Dole's) blood pressure, his weight and his cholesterol are lower than President Clinton