

Bob Dole



NEWS

U. S. SENATOR FOR KANSAS

FROM:

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PBS & OBJECTIVITY

DOLE BLASTS PBS ELECTION-NIGHT SPECIAL;
PROGRAM FEATURES TAXPAYER-SUBSIDIZED "LIBERAL HALL OF FAME"

WASHINGTON -- Senate Republican Leader Bob Dole (R-Kansas) today blasted the Public Broadcasting Service (PBS) for loading up its election night special with "a taxpayer-subsidized line-up straight out of the liberal Hall of Fame," creating a program that "tilts so far to the left, your TV may fall over."

PBS has announced that its three-hour election night special, "The Finish Line," will be co-hosted by former Carter Administration official Hodding Carter and journalist Ken Walker, and will feature analysis by NPR commentator Daniel Schorr, syndicated columnist Ellen Goodman, New York Times columnist Anthony Lewis, and liberal activist Roger Wilkins.

"Coming on the heels of all the assurances from the Corporation for Public Broadcasting that it would pay closer attention to its Congressional mandate for balanced and objective programming, this is another election-year poke in the eye for Republicans and the taxpayers," Dole said.

"First, PBS gave prominent election year roles to liberal commentators Bill Moyers and William Greider. Then, they hired two prominent Democrats, Barbara Jordan and Henry Cisneros, to host election-year specials. Now, we hear about another election special that tilts so far to the left, your TV may fall over. When it comes to 'The Finish Line,' it looks like balance and objectivity were never invited to the starting line. Don't get me wrong, this program features hard-working and talented journalists -- but they are also all hard-working and talented liberals. It's clear PBS has absolutely no intention or interest in ever making an effort to give the taxpayers balanced reporting."

During debate on the funding bill for the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, which provides funding for PBS, Dole helped secured assurances from CPB officials that the taxpayer-funded agency would live up to its 25 year-old Congressionally-mandated requirements of balance and objectivity.

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