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HUTCH NEWS 11-2

Rules for picking Kansas GOP delegates will help Dole

TOPEKA (UPI) — Kansas Republicans have agreed to speed up the process for choosing delegates to the GOP national convention to provide Sen. Robert Dole's presidential campaign a lift in the weeks before "Super Tuesday."

The new delegate selection rules, approved Saturday by the Republican state committee during a meeting in Topeka, also could help Dole win all of his home state's 34 delegates.

Fred Logan, a Prairie Village lawyer and state GOP chairman, said he wants a clean

sweep of the Kansas delegation for Dole, who will formally announce his candidacy for the Republican presidential nomination Nov. 9 in his native Russell.

The new rules move up the delegate selection process to demonstrate the support Dole has in his home state just before "Super Tuesday" on March 8 — when 20 states hold presidential primaries. Logan said Kansas will choose 15 of its delegates at five district conventions Feb. 20-21 with the other 19 being chosen at a state convention March 5.

Delegates normally are not picked until June.

Also, potential delegates to a district or state convention must preregister and declare their presidential preference. Anyone who names a candidate other than Dole likely will be pressured by Republican activists to reconsider.

"There's nothing under the rules preventing them from being for any candidate, though we certainly anticipate that virtually every one of them is going to want to be for Dole," Logan said in an interview

Sunday. "We want the process to be fair and open and orderly."

Logan said he was not aware of any Republican presidential candidate actively seeking delegates or votes in Kansas other than Dole.

"Apart from the fact that I think he's the best candidate, I think he's viewed as truly a favorite son candidate," Logan said. "Even Kansas Republicans who like other candidates like Dole this time as a favorite son candidate."

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Editorial

Sees GOP Race as Class Struggle

Speaking in Des Moines, Iowa, recently Republican presidential candidate Bob Dole said he sees the race as a class struggle of sorts. Coming from a man reared in Midwestern traditions, an admission of a possibility of class struggle seems out of character. And, in a way, it is.

Dole is identified with men and women like himself—open, honest, unbiased and understanding. Distinctions among classes is not generally accepted in the Midwest. Snobbishness is not tolerated in most communities. And in Bob Dole's background there are solid reasons why status or position in life is given little attention. Mention is not made casually.

Since 1923, oil has been important in Russell County. The oil business has a boom-and-bust philosophy. Those in the trade know too well the roller coaster ride. There are few indeed in any oil-producing area who haven't been flat broke—and often within the recent past.

The other major industry in plains states is farming, another continuing gamble. It holds families at the mercies and whims of nature and market. Ups and downs of those whose livelihood depends on livestock and farming are not unlike those in the oil business.

Wealth and position are relative in rural America. Neither can be assumed nor taken for granted.

Why then, would Dole point to a class struggle under way? For a half-century or more, power in the Congress and the White House has come from class-conscious wealthy. These elitists have mouthed words they think the common man wants to hear. Remember Franklin Delano Roosevelt's fireside chats beginning: "My friends . . ." More often than not, they've been out of touch and out of tune

with the people.

It is reasonable to Bob Dole to call attention to "the country club Republican with a fancy summer home in Kennebunkport, Maine. We're going to take our campaign to the people," Dole said in a recent campaign stop. "If they live in a trailer, that's fine with us. Not everybody lives in Kennebunkport."

"We're from small towns," Dole said in Fort Madison, Iowa, "And most of us had to work to get where we are."

"Getting where I've gotten wasn't because of any wealth in my family or because I had a powerful mother or father. My parents never finished high school and they were never interested in politics."

Dole is justified in projecting his Washington clout "while describing a rural Kansas upbringing that fits Iowa (and Kansas) like a pair of bib overalls," as political writer Donald M. Rothberg phrased it.

Kansans are hearing more about Dole's own Russell this time than ever before. What may seem like a shift in format really isn't a shift at all. He's telling it like it is—and for most Kansans, who know and understand every sentence, word, period and comma, the story is neither unusual nor strange.

Class distinctions have no real place in America. But some politicians continue to pit one segment against another, generate jealousy and animosity among people whose real tie should be brotherhood.

While Bob Dole talks about his hometown, remember the bigotry and bias, the prejudice and favoritism, which has been overcome in the nation—and what it cost the nation to overcome. Remember, too, that Bob Dole is telling his story—and it's one we all know.—R.T.T.

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Dole Day Will Include Protesters

—Hope National Media Will Cover Complaints

Disgruntled farmers and other Kansans opposed to Sen. Bob Dole plan to protest Monday in the Republican's hometown as he formally enters the presidential race, spokesmen said Wednesday.

Stephen Anderson of rural Alma, spokesman for the Kansas chapter of the American Agriculture Movement, said about a dozen members of his group would be on hand to complain about Dole in the presence of the national media.

Janice Norlin, a Concordia resident, said about 50 people representing a coalition of several groups also planned to demonstrate as Dole outlines his presidential ambitions. "We are residents of Kansas who do not support Dole and his policies," she said.

Among the groups that will be

represented are Kansans Against Central American Aid, the Manhattan (Kan.) Alliance on Central America, the Kansas chapter of the National Organization for Women, Neighbor to Neighbor and Awakenings, a Concordia group that promotes peace and environmental issues.

Norlin said the groups had no general theme on which to base their opposition to Dole.

Anderson said it was important to draw attention to what he said were the farm state senator's shortcomings and show that critical problems continue to face American farmers.

"We realize that the national media is going to be there and we just hope to let them know that the farm crisis isn't over in our opinion and that things are bad . . . out here," Anderson said. Anderson accused Dole of being more concerned about Cen-

tral America, special interest groups and the tobacco farmers of the South than with farmers in his home state.

"That's not true," said Katie Boyle, a Dole campaign spokeswoman in Washington. "If you talk to mainstream farmers they'll tell you Bob Dole has worked for agriculture for years."

She pointed out that Dole has organized an agriculture coalition to work for his campaign, Ranchers and Farmers for Dole.

Russell Police Chief Bob Tyler said he was aware opposition groups would be present for the otherwise pro-Dole setting.

"It would be a lot easier on me if they didn't have it (the protest), but we can't prevent anybody from doing that," he said. "I told the Dole people not to get uptight about it."

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Security lined up for Dole visit

By DALE HOGG

Tribune Area Reporter

RUSSELL — With Sen. Bob Dole's presidential announcement only three days away, plans are still uncertain about his possible arrival in Great Bend. According to Great Bend Police Captain Bob Robinson, the senator may not land in Great Bend Sunday as was first announced.

Dole will make his candidacy official at a ceremony in Russell, his home town, Monday. Although the actual announcement will take place at 9 a.m., activities and entertainment will begin at 7:30 a.m. at the corner of Eighth and Main streets.

"There is a good chance he won't land here (at Great Bend)," Robinson said this morning, adding that his office won't know for sure until late Saturday.

He leaves Washington, he may not have time to make the trip from Great Bend to Russell. If that is the case, he will arrive in a small private jet at the Russell City Airport.

"There will still be a 727 landing here (at Great Bend), but Dole might not be on it," Robinson said. Members of the news media and various Dole supporters will be on the flight. They will then be escorted to Russell.

Robinson said that his department will be handling the security at the airport, and since Dole will be leaving on the 727 from Great Bend following his announcement Monday morning, his officers will secure the plane. "There will be a 24-hour guard on that dude," he said. "If he

should land in Great Bend, any further involvement by local authorities would come only if they were asked by the Capitol Police, who are in charge of the senator's personal security. "If we're asked, we're going to assist in the escort. Now, we're on standby."

According to Ed Weatherford, fixed base operator at Great Bend Municipal Airport, arrangements for the location of spectators have been made in case Dole should land at Great Bend. He said that the general public will be allowed in the terminal building, behind the fence and on the parking lot south of the terminal.

Weatherford said the 727, with or without Dole, is scheduled to land at about 5 p.m. Sunday. "It all depends

on when they leave Washington, they could leave earlier."

The only thing that would keep the plane from landing at Great Bend would be "reasonably poor weather," he noted. "This is exciting, but I'll be glad when it's over," he commented.

In Russell County and in the city of Russell, Russell Police Chief Bob Tyler will be coordinating most of the security. "Once he gets here, he's mine," Tyler said. He explained that his job is to take care of the crowd and traffic and that the Capitol Police will handle the rest.

The Russell police chief said they will block off several streets and will take other precautions to assure the candidate's safety.

"We've asked for help from several departments," he noted, adding that in all, about 40 officers will

be involved working the crowd and answering questions.

Taylor said his office has received help from the Ellis County Sheriff's Office, Hays Police Department, Barton County Sheriff's Office and the Russell County Sheriff's Office. The Kansas Highway Patrol will also be involved and will escort Gov. Mike Hayden.

The chief commented that all the offices involved have been working together smoothly so far.

This is the third presidential announcement in Russell, Tyler said, and he has been involved in all three. Most recently, when former President Gerald Ford and Dole visited in 1980, he was in charge of security also.

Prior to the actual announcement in Russell, a number of activities are planned. Area high school bands will perform.



Sen. Bob Dole
Announcement expected