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Editorials

Robert J. Dole

Sen. Bob Dole will cross his own Rubicon Nov. 9 in his hometown. He will stand before his family and friends, before classmates and teammates, and say to them simply, "I can be the next president."

And these people, the ones who know him best, will find the flat, bald statement reasonable, logical, and believable. Even those who have some smidgeon of suspicion that such a marvel—a Russell, Kan., man become president of the United States—may not really come to pass, still will believe and still will wish him well.

In Russell, these people who hear one of their own make such a bold, brash statement know in their hearts they have no reason to doubt, no fear of shame or embarrassment. Bob Dole will give his utmost for a cause to which he has already given of himself more than has been asked of all but a few of those who listen.

Skeptics ask, What can Bob Dole—or Russell—hope to gain from this public show and professionally staged rally. And this is where skeptics find themselves traveling blind. There's no need to look for ulterior motives, for there are none.

Dole and his town gain from each other. While one draws on unseen reserves that have nurtured him from childhood, the other grows strong from

the aura reflected from the image of leadership and stature borne by the other. The two complement each other. They are one and the same in the final analysis.

Dole's intention to bid for the Republican Nomination has been non secret. Politically, he could have gone almost anywhere in the nation to take the formal step. He could find more votes, develop new partnerships, and make larger waves almost anywhere else.

Instead, Dole has come home—and home welcomes him. Each is secure in the knowledge that the all-binding spirit of hearth and home are ties stronger than chain.

Bob Dole is starting from where he started. In the manner of countless young men who venture far from home, following dreams and fulfilling destinies, he has flown into the yonder and come home to find the faith to guide him on his voyage to higher goals. His return shows he's not leaving his people behind, but rather, inviting us to accompany him into the future.

Bob Dole is a man of Kansas—a man of the world. We join those in Russell Nov. 9, as well as people everywhere, in wishing his flight into the unknown as safe and soul-satisfying as the others have been.—R.T.T.



BROTHERS AND SISTERS and other relatives gathered in the Blue Room of the Russell Elks Lodge April 2, 1983, to help Bina Dole, Bob Dole's mother, celebrate her 80th birthday. From left, they are: Gladys Friesen, Russell; Ethel Crissman, St. John; Mrs. Howard (Betty Jo) Stafford, Fargo, N.D.; Fred Talbot, Russell; Mildred Nye, Harper; Bina Dole; and Zaida Link, Russell, Mrs. Stafford, Mildred Nye and Zaida Link are sisters of Bina. Fred Talbot is her brother. Mrs. Friesen and Ethel Crissman are sisters of Bina's husband, Doran R. Dole.

(Staff Photo)

Dole Says U.S. Deficit Poses Bigger Threat Than the Soviets

Green Bay Press-Gazette Green Bay, Wis.

JANESVILLE — Senate Minority Leader Robert Dole, R-Kan., said Friday that he thought the federal deficit is a bigger threat

to the United States than the Soviet Union.

"Whoever is elected president, Republican or Democrat, has to face that," said Dole, a GOP presidential hopeful who has not formally declared his candidacy for the nation's top post. "We've added \$2 trillion to the debt in the last seven years," he noted.

The Senate minority leader said solutions will take people who can make hard choices. "Bob Dole can make hard choices," he stated, and cited what he said was his engineering of a 1985 Senate vote that eliminated 14 federal programs and froze every cost-of-living increase for federal benefits, including Social Security.

Dole commented during a visit to Blackhawk Technical College near Janesville. He made an appearance Thursday at Appleton in which he said the United States should stop importing oil from Iran to put

economic pressure on Tehran to end its seven-year Persian Gulf war with Iraq.

If Iran does not accept the United Nations Security Council's resolution calling for a halt to fighting in the gulf war, Dole said the United States must take action on its own to bring about peace in the region so that U.S. Navy escorts of ships in the gulf are no longer needed.

"One thing that I'd do is shut off buying oil from Iran. The United States buys \$300 million worth of oil from Iran a day. I don't see any reason America should be supporting their economy. This is one step that will hurt Iran in their pocket-book," Dole said.

With the hostilities between Iran and Iraq, U.S. warships are needed in the Persian Gulf to keep the shipping lanes open, Dole said. "We are there for better or worse. There's not going to be any retreat," Dole said.

Bob Dole's Day . . .

Russell residents have been watching the complicated and seemingly endless arrangements of Bob Dole's path in seeking nomination for the presidency. Not that there's been much doubt that the formal announcement would be coming.

After a few false starts, probably fewer than in many other political camps, word from Washington is that the time and place will be in Russell, Kan., at 9 a.m. Monday, Nov. 9. Dole's entourage is expected to arrive in the area Sunday, Nov. 8, to allow the senator some time to visit with his family and old friends, one of his closely held pleasures, and one for which he has been allowed too little time in recent months.

After the announcement in Russell, the campaign is expected to leap to Iowa for an appeal to nominators there. The day will be completed in New Hampshire, another key state, if time permits.

Russell's recognition for Senator Dole will be the third in a dozen years, giving residents a definite edge on what to do and how to do it. There was that 24-hour notice Aug. 20, 1976, when President Gerald R. Ford came to the Courthouse lawn with his running mate, Senator Bob Dole, named vice-presidential candidate at noon Aug. 19, at the Republican National Convention in Kansas City, Mo.

The second welcome was in May, 1979, when Dole launched a run for the roses from 8th and Maple streets, near

City Hall, this newspaper's office, and only three blocks from his home.

There was another Bob Dole Day, drawing friends and neighbors from a large area on Election Day, Nov. 2, 1976.

Although the format for the Nov. 9 announcement is keyed toward national television and the 5:30 and 6 o'clock news, it will, nevertheless, draw hundreds, even thousands, of people to Russell. And residents here will be called upon to be hosts once again.

Here is another opportunity, first to show solidarity and support for a Russell man who is counting on self-confidence and ability to carry him to the nation's highest post. Secondly, Russell and its people will be on display to the nation, an opportunity few communities of this size ever receive.

People here know Bob Dole, many have known him and his family for three generations. They know the values of which Bob Dole's life is built. The people of Russell, too, have been influenced by those same values, ethics and moral principles, which, while not unique to Russell, certainly dominate those who have learned them here.

Bob Dole's announcement day deserves to be bigger and better than anything seen before. Russell's U.S. senator will be on display — and sharing center stage with him will be Russell, Kan., and its people who, for the hour or so it may last, will show the nation how our town goes about honoring a native son — and welcoming the nation to take a good look — for what we see, the nation should also see.—R.T.T.

Dave Owens Says Dole Knows Where Came From

Robert J. Dole, senior senator from Kansas and a candidate for the Republican nomination for the presidency of the United States, can be "meaner than a junkyard dog," Dave Owens, long-time political Kansas political associate, says.

Still, Owens says, Dole knows where he came from. He has watched other senators catch Potomac fever by spending too much time on national issues at the expense of their home state.

"I want to guard against that," Dole has said. "I go home a lot. I don't want to be perceived as just a national figure."

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