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Protests of Dole planned

Kansan's candidacy for president opposed

By LINDA MOWERY-DENNING
Great Plains Editor

RUSSELL — Janice Norlin wants people to know that Sen. Robert Dole is not the favored son of all Kansans. So on Monday — the day Dole plans to announce he will seek the Republican nomination for president — Norlin and dozens of others from across Kansas will be in Russell to protest his candidacy.

"He's much more interested in corporate America and the military-industrial complex," said Norlin, a Kansas State University student from Concordia. "I don't believe our defense lies with how many MX missiles we have. I believe our defense is our children."

Several peace groups, including Kansans Against Contra Aid, Salina's Center for Peace Concerns and the McPherson Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, plan to have supporters in Russell to protest Dole's announcement.

Also expected are representatives from the Kansas National Organization for Women and the American Agriculture Movement.

AAM supporters also were present in 1979, the first time Dole returned to his hometown of Russell to declare himself a presidential candidate.

Steven Anderson, a spokesman for the movement, said protesters hope to have tractors draped in black parked near the downtown area where Dole will speak.

Norlin said the groups plan a peaceful protest. Participants will have banners and signs.

"We don't plan to be disruptive," she said. "We just want to make our presence known."

She said as many as a dozen cars will leave from Salina Monday morning. At Russell, they will meet with farmers and other protesters from western Kansas.

As many as 10,000 people are expected to descend upon Russell for Dole's announcement. However, most of them will be cheering for the senator rather than waving protest signs.

Sheri Caywood, district chairman for the Dole campaign for president, said a caravan of the senator's supporters will leave at 8 a.m. Monday for Russell from the parking lot of Revels' Carousel, 621 Westport. She said everyone is welcome to join the caravan, which will probably be led by Randy Duncan, Saline County Republican chairman.

Russell Police Chief Bob Tyler said he expects space to be tight for the announcement. In fact, he said he wouldn't be surprised to see out-of-towners camp downtown overnight to reserve a good spot for the announcement.

His seven-member department will receive help with crowd and traffic control by officers from the Hays Police Department and sheriff's offices in Barton, Ellis and Russell counties.

Security for Dole will be handled by 10 members of the Washington Capitol security staff and agents

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Protests

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from the Kansas Bureau of Investigation.

Tyler said he has received telephone calls from three groups, including AAM, about a protest.

The chief said that the last time Dole announced his candidacy, local police officers helped AAM supporters park their tractors. This time, they're going to have to fight for room just like everyone else, Tyler said.

"The last time we had fewer people and more room," he said. "They're just going to have to come up here and hope to be seen like everyone else."

Tyler said as many as 3,000 school children will be in the audience when Dole makes his announcement. Bleacher seats will be available for the students, who are coming from Salina, Hays, Wakeeney, Falco, Plainville and other Kansas towns including, of course, Russell.

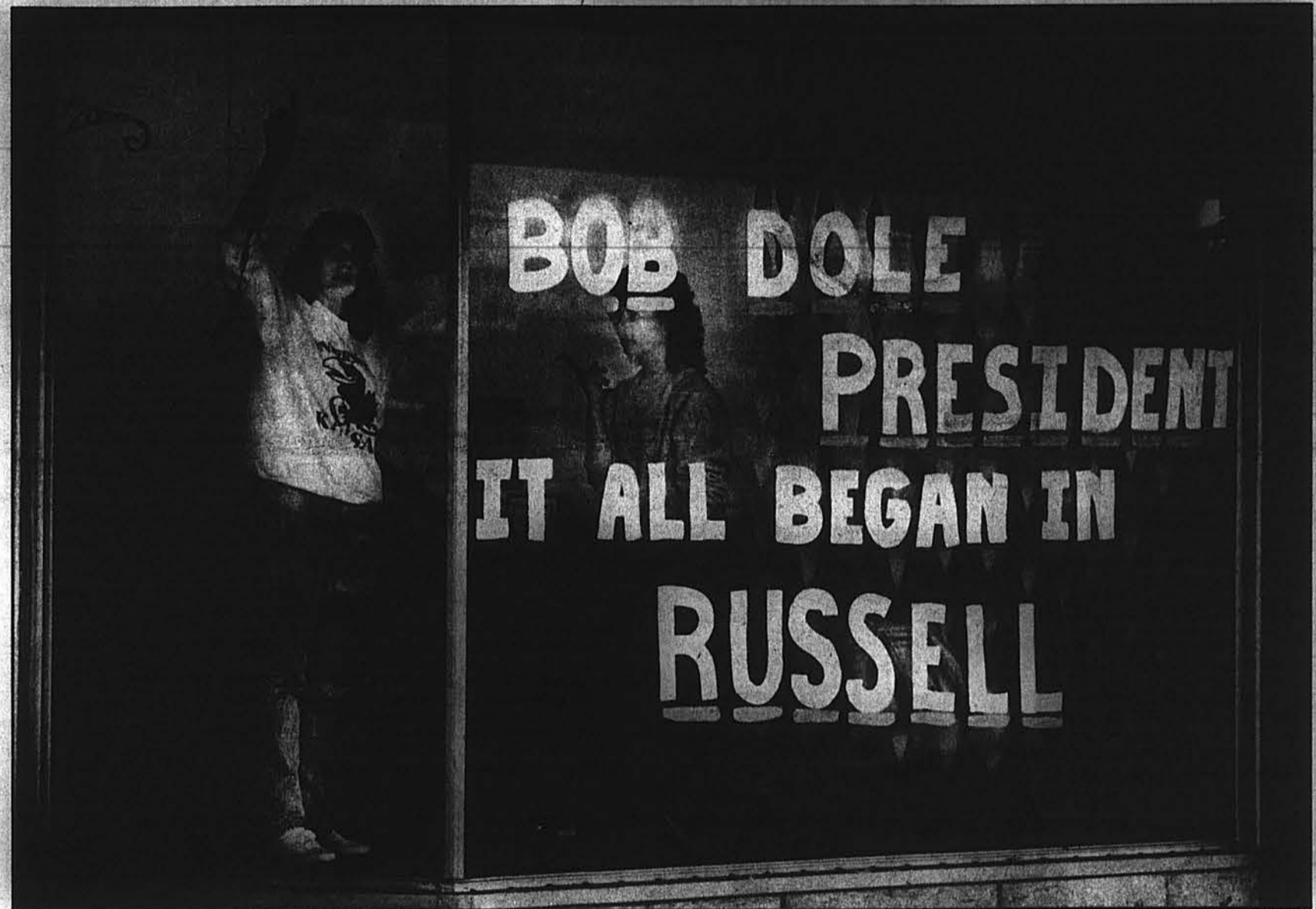
HAYS DAILY 11-8-87

Hometown to help proclaim:

'Bob Dole for President'



Bob Dole returned to his hometown in May 1986 to announce he would seek a fourth 6-year term in the U.S. Senate.



Photos by Charlie Rieder

Natalie Norris and Terri Dumler, both 16, work on a sign Saturday at a Dole campaign office on Russell's Main Street. Natalie is the daughter of Peggy Norris, Russell, and Terri is the daughter of Carl Dumler, Russell.

By BRUCE BAIR

RUSSELL — No one knows how many people will be in Russell at 9 a.m. Monday when Sen. Bob Dole announces his intention to become president.

Sometimes, Tish Rogers, a Russell Area Chamber of Commerce member, can be seen through the window of the Main Street Dole headquarters, her face buried in her arms.

By now, she has donated hundreds of hours fielding calls from the press, lining up motel rooms and, in many cases, finding space in Russell homes for out-of-town guests. Dozens of other volunteers have put in similar hours.

But the calls keep coming, and the tension and excitement increase as the hour of Dole's official announcement of his presidential candidacy draws closer.

Rogers lights another cigarette and grimly picks up the phone.

"Why, hello, Pat Roberts," she says to the western Kansas congressman.

A half-dozen Dole staffers have been in Russell for nearly a week. They field phone calls from the press who request information about airline and motel accommodations and rental cars.

It's a job explaining that none of those things exist anymore in Russell. Some staffers stick out their hands and smile; some

don't. Information aside from the schedule is scarce: "Don't use my name," they say.

They can't afford to make mistakes. Hundreds of journalists and the major television networks will be there. The arrangements have been carefully planned to provide what staffers refer to as "the picture," a picture Dole supporters hope will indelibly stamp Dole as a man of the people.

Dole's staffers are recommending that the crowd be at Eighth and Main, where the announcement will take place, by 7:30 a.m. The VIPs will be out in force. Gov. Mike Hayden, Sen. Nancy Kassebaum, Rep. Pat Roberts and former Secretary of Labor Bill Brock are expected.

Dole will most likely arrive in town sometime this morning. Exactly when is not being released, but he is scheduled to attend a private dinner for about 200 family members and close friends at noon.

All 1,200 of the Russell school system's students are expected to be there Monday, as will hundreds of students for other schools. At 8 a.m., the Great Bend High School band will kick off the official pre-announcement entertainment as they march toward the announcement stand.

Russell Police Chief Bob Tyler is responsible for providing security for the event. He will coordinate the efforts of Hays and Russell police and sheriff's officers from Russell, Ellis and Barton counties. Highway Patrol troopers will provide traffic and crowd supervision. Dole's personal security is being provided by 10 officers of the Capitol security force.

But Tyler says, "It's a horrible, horrible location for security." He wouldn't be surprised to find people camping out on the grounds all night tonight to assure themselves a good spot Monday morning.

And the needs keep changing, he says. Demonstrators, he said, want prominent locations. The American Agriculture Movement plans to park a few black-draped tractors near the scene, but the rest of the protesters will have to fend for themselves, said Tyler.

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Blane Stoppel of Stoppel Construction, Russell, puts together bleachers borrowed from Great Bend.

EDITORIALS

Dole brings home national spotlight

Partisan politics will take a holiday Monday when Kansans celebrate with their favorite son, Bob Dole.

Gov. Mike Hayden has declared Monday to be "Bob Dole Day" in recognition of the senator's formal declaration of his presidential candidacy in a ceremony beginning at 8 a.m. Monday in downtown Russell.

Thousands, including an army of national news reporters, will gather for the festivities in Dole's hometown. For one day, the nation's attention will be focused

on Russell and northwest Kansas.

This is heady stuff, and not altogether inappropriate. Rural Kansas remains a bastion of values — honesty, industry, loyalty, perseverance — that the rest of the nation would do well to remember, and Sen. Bob Dole long has been a leading ambassador of those prairie values.

On Monday, all Kansans can share pride in knowing that Bob Dole, one of our own, stands as a leading candidate for the world's highest office. — KS

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