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COLD DRINKS

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Dole samples a chocolate malt Sunday at Rogers O'Dawson Drug Store as employee Dusty Daugherty looks on. Dole's first job at age 12 was as a soda jerk at this store.

Hometown welcomes back Bob Dole

By Tim Hoyt
The Hutchinson News
Central Kansas Bureau, Great Bend

RUSSELL — While running around town after church Sunday afternoon in his hometown, Senator Bob Dole took time to show off an old skill for his wife Elizabeth.

Dole created a chocolate malt for her at the Rogers O'Dawson Drug Store, formerly Dawson Drugs, where he worked as a 12-year-old.

Larry Rodgers, the owner of the pharmacy, said Dole made a perfect malt.

"He did a great job ... We thought we might have to show him how, but he got it right," Rodgers said. "I guess it's like riding a bicycle."

Bob and Elizabeth Dole arrived at the Russell Airport on a charter plane Saturday night from Iowa, according to a spokesman for the Dole campaign who was at the Great Bend Airport. It was in Great Bend that a 727 jetliner carrying members of Dole's campaign staff and more than 50 members of the national media arrived about 5 p.m. Sunday.

After his visit to the drug store, which was crowded with friends and members of the media, the senator and his wife went to a family reunion at the Russell County 4-H building.

Kenny Dole, Bob's younger brother, said about 300 members of the Dole family attended the gathering.

Anita Dole, Kenny's wife, said all the relatives were on hand, including a great-niece of Bob's who was born Sept. 28th.

The Doles, together with Bob's daughter Robin, have been staying in the house where Bob was raised, at 1035 Maple, Anita Dole said.

Dole made an unscheduled visit to the Russell VFW Hall Sunday night, where an open house sponsored by the Veterans of Foreign Wars, the Russell Chamber of Commerce and the Republican Party was in full swing.

The VFW Hall was packed with hundreds of Dole supporters, who were enjoying drinks, hors d'oeuvres and music provided by the Jimmy Dee Band when Dole and his wife arrived around 8:15 p.m.

The couple greeted well-wishers and friends as they made their way into the packed hall.

As Dole waded through the crowd, cameras flashed all around as people stopped them to chat and shake hands. A security man leading the senator looked like he was about to give up trying to get Dole up to the podium.

Before Dole made his way to the speakers' stand, a number of officials made short welcoming speeches, including Norman Staab, a former national commander of the VFW, Larry Ehrlich, the Russell County Republican Chairman, and Pat Roberts, Republican congressman.

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know in Kansas about the kind of president he would make.

On the speakers' stand, Dole said he might prefer to make his announcement for president then and there, where it's "nice and warm."

"But I promised the local drug-store owner who has lots of cold remedies to get rid of to have it outdoors," he said.

Dole went on to say that he likes his position in the upcoming race for the Republican nomination, but he also urged those in attendance to contact anyone they know in Iowa to urge them for their votes. The Iowa primary is the first test in the race.

Dole said that as he makes his way around the country he urges the people he sees to pick up the phone and contact anyone they

"Most would say I don't always agree with Dole, but he sure works hard, and works to get things done for Kansas," Dole said.

The senator went on to introduce his wife and his daughter to the crowd, and he said hello to various friends he recognized in the audience.

He closed by saying "All roads lead to Iowa, as far as Bob Dole is concerned."

After his announcement speech at 9 a.m. today, Dole is scheduled to fly to Iowa for another announcement speech, then on to North Carolina for the final talk in a very busy day.

Kansas politicians say Dole's chances are good

By Mark Enoch
The Hutchinson News

Many Kansas politicians, especially Republicans, think Sen. Robert Dole has a good chance of being the next president.

Dole, R-Kan., kicks off his presidential campaign today in Russell.

Even one of the state's most popular Democrats predicted that Dole would win the Republican nomination.

But that Democrat, Rep. Dan Glickman, said that if he were a gambling man, he would bet that Dole would win the nomination over Vice President George Bush, but lose the election.

"Bush is going to be saddled with the defects of the Reagan administration," Glickman said. "I think it's going to be very difficult for any Republican to win the election in 1988."

If the nation plunges into a recession, it will be impossible for a Republican to capture the highest office, Glickman said.

Glickman, who represents Wichita and Hutchinson in Congress, is not one to underestimate Bob Dole.

"Bob Dole is a very, very clever, intelligent politician," he said.

And Glickman's prediction on his own future?

"I can't say a Senate seat wouldn't interest me, but right now my priority is getting re-elected in the House."

Bill Roy

The last Democrat who came close to sending Dole home to Russell was Bill Roy, a Topeka doctor.

In 1974, Roy, a two-term congressman, lost the Senate race to Dole by just 12,000 votes. Roy captured 49.2 percent of the votes.

But the Bob Dole of 1987 is politically much stronger and has a good chance of becoming the next presi-



Glickman

dent, Roy said.

"I think those chances are better than any other single individual's chances," he said. "I think his biggest hurdle is getting nominated."

The 1974 race was an especially dirty one, with abortion raised as an issue by Dole supporters. In some last-minute Dole ads, Roy, who has delivered thousands of babies, was labeled an abortionist.

But Dole has changed, at least in behavior, since then, Roy said.

"He's gotten away from the meanness that has characterized the first years of his political life."

Pat Roberts

Rep. Pat Roberts, the Republican who represents the western half of Kansas, also thinks that Dole faces a tougher battle for the nomination than for the election. Roberts said Dole was within striking distance of getting the nomination.

Roberts listed several factors that will increase Dole's chances of living in the White House:

- Dole is popular in the key early caucus state of Iowa, which is much like Kansas.
- He gained key help when former Labor Secretary Bill Brock became his campaign manager. Dole also has one of the top pollsters.
- Dole's campaign recruited sev-

eral key people from the aborted campaign for former Nevada Sen. Paul Laxalt.

- Dole's wife, former Transportation Secretary Elizabeth Dole, is a Southerner who has set up offices in the Carolinas for Super Tuesday.

Roberts said he didn't think the stock market crash would hurt the Republican nominee, especially if the nominee is Dole. A recession may even help elect Dole, he added.

"He is recognized as a very tough leader," Roberts said.

Jan Myers

Rep. Jan Myers, a Republican who represents suburban Johnson County, is upbeat about the chances of 1988 producing President Bob Dole.

"I think they are excellent," Mrs. Myers said. "Right now, if you look at some polls, it looks like he is behind Bush. But the momentum seems to be in Dole's direction."

Mrs. Myers said one poll showed that Dole had made strong gains in Iowa. That momentum also has produced money — Dole raised more donations than Bush in the most recent quarter.

"All of us are going out to Russell," Mrs. Myers said. "I think Russell on that day will have a population about the size of Chicago."

Robert Talkington

Kansas Senate President Robert Talkington, a Republican from Iola, first met Dole in the 1950s, when Talkington was the Allen County attorney and Dole was the Russell County attorney.

"I think his basic sense of values is the same as when I first met him," Talkington said.

Talkington sees the odds as increasingly in favor of a Dole victory.

"I think they're good and I think they're getting better as time goes by."

Tom Docking

While Bush still is leading in the polls, Dole has a good chance of winning the nomination, former Lt. Governor Tom Docking said.

"I feel those chances are very good at this point," Docking said. "I think they are going to have a very good horse race on their hands."

Docking, a Wichita lawyer who was the Democratic candidate for governor last year, said the general election was a different ballgame.

"That is far less predictable right now because of the number of players on the Democratic side."

Dole and Bush now are better known than any of the Democratic candidates, but that advantage will vanish in the general election, just

think he comes across as a do-something person."

Bennett has even heard Bush supporters say they would have no problem supporting Dole if he won the nomination.

One big potential minus is the economy. If it is in poor shape on election day, the Democrats will blame the Republicans, no matter who the candidates are, Bennett said.

But problems on Wall Street are more likely to hurt Bush than Dole, Bennett added.

John Carlin

Former Democratic Gov. John Carlin wasn't ready to make a precise prediction.

"Things are in such a state of flux it's hard to predict."

Carlin views the odds between a Democratic and Republican president as even.

"I think Sen. Dole is one to be respected," said Carlin, who is teaching at Wichita State University. "We worked together very well."

Nancy Kassebaum

Republican Kansas Sen. Nancy Kassebaum says her colleague has a good chance of becoming president.

"I have felt on the whole that his momentum is about right," she said. "Any politician likes to be running in second place and gaining, particularly with it (the election) this far out."

Sen. Kassebaum also said that Dole appeared to have made a calculated decision not to be as aggressive during the first Republican debate as he has been. She said Bush did well in the debate, but it didn't hurt Dole.

"I don't think there were any negatives for Sen. Dole."