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## The Iowa caucuses

# Dole, Robertson finish caucuses in first and second place

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and other party insiders in Iowa on Monday night, the results were universally viewed as a big defeat for the vice president.

John P. Sears, a Republican political consultant, said on NBC-TV of Bush's finish, "To come in third when you're expected to be the front-runner makes it difficult if not impossible to recover."

Dole's campaign chairman, Bill Brock, said Bush's third-place finish was "a terrible disaster for the vice president" and predicted that Dole would experience a surge in New Hampshire.

"Bush has a desperate problem," Brock said.

The unofficial results with 2,405 of 2,487 precincts reporting:

	Votes
Bob Dole.....	39,866
Pat Robertson.....	26,186
George Bush.....	19,820
Jack Kemp.....	11,832
Pete du Pont.....	7,762
Alexander M. Haig Jr.....	432

More than 105,000 of the state's 486,000 registered Republican voters attended the caucuses across the state.

A spokesman for Robertson said the Iowa results would force Bush's campaign "to retrench."

"They have to go back and figure out how you win campaigns," the spokesman said.

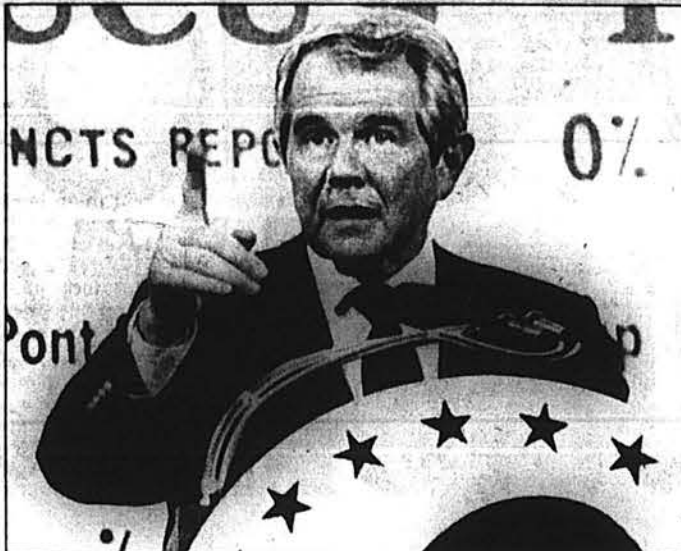
Charles Black, Jack Kemp's campaign manager, said, "Bush will have trouble re-establishing his position."

"He said much of Bush's support in New Hampshire was from conservatives who liked President Reagan. Many of those will now be searching for someone else, Black said."

"Bush's support is going to sink like a rock," Black said.

But the vice president's campaign officials said the comments of their opponents were self-serving because all of them wanted to beat Bush.

Rich Bond, Bush's national political director, compared Bush's situa-



Speaking Monday before the caucuses began, Pat Robertson answers a question at the Republican tabulation center in Des Moines.

tion with that of Reagan in 1980, when Bush surprised the front-runner Reagan in Iowa.

"A loss by Ronald Reagan in Iowa in 1980 didn't stop him from going on to win in New Hampshire... and become the president of the United States," Bond said.

He said the Bush campaign had predicated its campaign on a loss in Iowa.

But Dole, in the pre-caucus interview, said Americans would not let Bush off the hook for losing Iowa.

"This state is important to me," Dole said. "But it's just as important to the vice president. You can say in 1980 that it was a great victory and in 1988 say it doesn't make any difference."

In the same interview, Dole said he did not think that the recent flap concerning his personal finances and his role in obtaining a no-bid federal contract for a former aide had a marked impact on the race.

Bush's Iowa campaign manager

concluded.

The Robertson surge had been building in recent days, but many party regulars did not think that he could finish second.

Dole said on NBC-TV: "I'm probably more surprised about the vice president's showing, but I think what Pat Robertson is doing, he's telling us in caucus states that he can be a real threat. I think in an open primary, it (the threat) is not that great."

Up to now, Robertson has done well in caucuses and straw polls, which put a premium on a candidate's ability to organize and turn out his supporters. Last week he won 81 percent of the votes cast in Hawaii's straw poll. But political experts doubt that he can do well in a primary state.

Kerry Moody, a spokesman for Robertson, said Monday night that New Hampshire would be tough for Robertson. He said Robertson probably would concentrate on doing well in the March 8 Super Tuesday

## Robertson hails breadth of support

By Tom Miller  
Of the Mid-America Staff

DES MOINES, Iowa — A jubilant Pat Robertson said Monday night that his surprising second-place finish in the Republican caucuses here proved that his candidacy had broad appeal and predicted that the showing would "galvanize" his supporters nationwide.

"We are simply delighted at our victory here tonight," Robertson said. "It's a victory for all the American people."

Polls had shown Robertson in a third-place battle with Rep. Jack Kemp of New York, well behind Vice President George Bush and Kansas Sen. Bob Dole. But in Monday night's caucuses, Robertson had a slight edge over Bush and left Kemp far behind. Dole had a wide lead on the rest of the pack.

"This proves that my candidacy

is not a narrow one, appealing only to a small segment of the nation," Robertson told his supporters in the crowded basement of a downtown trade center.

Signs in the center read "George Who?" and supporters were upbeat but relatively subdued about Robertson's strong showing.

Robertson said his second-place finish did not surprise him: "I knew in advance this week when I saw the enthusiasm. I would have been going away in first place."

People were coming out in great numbers, and I felt the momentum. If this thing had been another few days down the road, I would have been going away in first place."

Campaign volunteer Ruby Starnes of rural Linn County, near Cedar Rapids, said, "This should prove we are for real and here to stay."

Robertson's forces had worked

hard in the final days before Monday's caucuses, with radio messages airing up to the start of the 7 p.m. meetings throughout the state.

In an interview with *The New York Times* while awaiting final returns, Robertson said, "It's almost like we say, 'you've got to give God the credit.'"

In his brief remarks to supporters after the tally was posted, Robertson stressed much of what he'd been talking about during the campaign: school prayer, return to moral strength for the nation, and pride in America.

"This was the test I had been looking for," Robertson said, "to prove the breadth of our campaign. This is a loud assent that I'm reaching out to all Americans."

Some information for this article was gathered by *The Associated Press*.

## Bush downplays Iowa loss, vows New Hampshire rally

The Associated Press

NASHUA, N.H. — Vice President George Bush said late Monday night that he was disappointed but "not down" after his crushing defeat in the Iowa caucuses. He vowed to work harder to win next week's New Hampshire primary.

The Republican presidential hopeful said former television evangelist Pat Robertson had out-organized and out-hustled his own effort in Iowa.

At a news conference, Bush offered his congratulations to Senate Republican leader Bob Dole for his first-place finish and Robertson for his No. 2 showing.

But he also had a message for his GOP rivals: "I tell them I'm coming after them. I'm a fighter. I'm going to come back. I'm not going to be slinking around here. I'll be out at the plant gate tomorrow at 6:45 starting back to work again."

Bush's campaign quickly scheduled a pre-dawn factory gate appearance today to start a week of campaigning for next Tuesday's New Hampshire primary.

The vice president said he didn't know if his bickering with Dole in recent days had hurt, and he refused to attribute his defeat to any specific act.

"I can't say I'm not disappointed, but I'm not down," he told reporters.

Bush said his aides had prepared him for a third-place finish in the restricted situation of a caucus because of Robertson's potential strength.

Speaking of Robertson, Bush said: "Organization: He out-hustled us."

"You're getting into the big leagues now. This primary and then Super Tuesday."

Bush is far and away the leader in

the polls in New Hampshire, unlike Iowa, where he had trailed Dole for several months.

He said New Hampshire, however, was "not do-or-die, but very important."

"We'll focus on the message and let the people decide," Bush said.

Bush and his state campaign chief, Gov. John Sununu, compared Bush's situation to what happened in 1980. That year, Bush defeated Ronald Reagan in Iowa, but then Reagan roared back to crush Bush and moved on to win the nomination and the White House.

"I came out of Iowa with a victory and lost New Hampshire and lost the nation... last time," Bush said.

Sununu said: "New Hampshire is a very different state. It's a state where issues are important. It's a state where the voters are used to cutting through the veneer and the plastic."



Greeting supporters at a Monday morning breakfast, Vice President George Bush begins a day of Iowa campaigning before flying to New Hampshire. Bush came in third in the Republican caucuses Monday.

## Iowa surprises send GOP scrambling into New Hampshire

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Hampshire poll conducted from Jan. 29 to Feb. 3 put the vice president 23 points ahead of Dole, 42 percent to 19 percent.

In the ABC News-Washington Post poll, Rep. Jack Kemp of New York was next with 13 percent, followed by former Gov. Pete du Pont of Delaware, 10 percent; Robertson, 6 percent; and former Secretary of State Alexander Haig Jr., 3 percent.

Unlike Hawaii, where Robertson won 81 percent of last week's straw poll, New Hampshire will be a tough battleground, a spokesman, Kerry Moody, said Monday night.

He said Robertson probably would concentrate on doing well March 8 in the Super Tuesday primaries and caucuses in 20 states, including Missouri.

"There is no natural constituency for us up there (in New Hampshire)," Moody said. "It's a very, very tough state."

Robertson said Monday he had sensed momentum building for him in Iowa in the last few days because he had broadened his base of support beyond religious followers.

"A few weeks ago, it looked hard-pressed to come in third," he said. "Second place would be excellent because that would mean I was able to defeat a sitting vice president in a state he won in 1980."

The Robertson factor

The Bush camp's fear of Robertson in Iowa materialized early Monday night when the TV evangelist jumped ahead of the vice president early in the caucuses and held on. Bond, who ran Bush's Iowa campaign in 1980 and in the last few months of 1987 and 1988, had said Robertson's zealous following ensured that the former TV preacher would be able to turn out the vote in Iowa.

And George Wittgraf, Bush's Iowa campaign chairman, had been telling reporters for weeks: "Robertson is a much bigger factor than the

## Tireless Iowan credited with organizing Dole's win

By Stephen C. Fehr  
Washington Correspondent

DES MOINES, Iowa — The engineer, of Kansas, Sen. Bob Dole's first-place finish in the Iowa caucuses on Monday night was a 30-year-old farm boy from Knoxville, Iowa, who built Dole's Iowa organization.

Tom Synhorst, whose only previous experience in politics was as an assistant press secretary and finance director for the 1980 and 1986 campaigns of U.S. Sen. Charles Grassley of Iowa, worked 12-hour days, seven days a week in setting up Dole's organization in 99 counties.

"Tom had the complete dedication to see that the things we were going to do in Iowa got done," said Floyd Brown, Dole's Midwest

political director.

Every four years in Iowa, political star-makers are born. In 1980, for example, Iowa Rep. Dan Rostenkowski was elected to Congress.

Grassley, who won election in 1980 largely by playing up his small-town origin, introduced Dole to audiences by saying, "Dole is one of us." Dole embraced that theme later in the campaign, and it touched a nerve.

Wittgraf, Bush's Iowa campaign director, conceded, "The man does have a certain cultural and geographic affinity with Iowans."

Bill Northey of Spirit Lake, Iowa, one of a majority of Iowa Farm Bureau county chairmen who backed Dole, said that although he could have supported either Bush or Dole, "I got a more homey feeling with Dole. Bush is in more of a presidential atmosphere."

Dole was in his element with

and Grassley operative, said Synhorst's effort in building Dole's organization was the key to the senator's victory.

"Look at Dole's run in 1980, when he finished last," Roth said. "Look at 1988. I know there are differences. Dole has matured. But I think 80 to 90 percent of his lead has to be attributed to Synhorst and the Grassley organization. Tom is probably the best Republican political operative in this state."

Grassley said: "Since organization is so important in Iowa, he's a key person. Success or failure has to rest on the organization, after the candidate himself."

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