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1988

The lowa caucuses

Dole, Robertson finish caucuses in first and second place

Continued from Page A-1 and other party insiders in Iowa on Monday night, the results were uni-versally viewed as a big defeat for John P. Sears, a Republican polit-ical 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 ould experience a surge in New Hampshi

"Bush has a desperate problem," brock said. The unofficial results with 2,405 of 2,487 precincts reporting:

Votes 39,866 Bob Dol Pat Robertson 26.186 George Bush. Jack Kemp.... 19,820 11,832 Pete du Pont .. 7,762

Alexander M. Haig Jr..... 432 More than 105,000 of the state's 486,000 registered Republican vot-ers attended the caucuses across the

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 cam-paign manager, said, "Bush will have trouble re-establishing his pos-

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

""Bush's support is going to sink like a rock," Black said. But the vice president's campaign officials said the comments of their

pponents were self-serving because all of them wanted to beat Bush.



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 But Dole, in the pre-caucus interview, said Americans would not let Bush off the hook for losing "This state is important to me,"

Dole said. "But it's just as important to the vice president. You can't 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 Rich Bond, Bush's national politi-cal director, compared Bush's situa-Bush's Iowa campaign manager

Bush downplays Iowa loss,

vows New Hampshire rally

lowa organization.

to Reagan and eventually led to his

But Bush's strong organization,

ay to start a w

appearan

concurred 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 candi-date'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 prob-ably 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 of a downtown trade center. Signs in the center read "George Who?" and supporters were upbeat but relatively subcaucuses here proved that his candidacy had broad appeal and pre-dicted that the showing would "galvanize"' his supporters nadued about' Robertson's strong showing. Robertson said his second-place ionwide.

"We are simply delighted at our victory here tonight," Robertson said. "It's a victory for all the finish did not surprise him: "I knew in advance this week when I 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

primaries and caucuses in 20 states, including Missouri. winner.

Kemp, who had been trying to finish third in Iowa, now goes to New Hampshire urying to save his candidacy, as does Pete du Pont, who said Monday afternoon that he had to beat Kemp in Iowa to have any chance in New Hampshire.

Dole adviser David A. Keene said Dole's big win over Bush could well mean that Dole could pick up from 8 to 15 percentage points on Bush in New Hampshire polls.

"If we get 8-15 points, we've got a dead-even shot of winning the New Hampshire primary," Keene said. Though Bush started with a 2-1 advantage over Dole in the polls beginning in 1986, Dole gradually moved ahead early in 1987 and held a narrow lead for most of the year. Dole padded that lead in the cam-

margin that made him the expected None of the other candidates came close to Dole or Bush in the polls, but Robertson threw a scare into everyone in September by winning a big straw poll at a party gathering. Bush dispatched one of his top operatives to Iowa after finishing third in that poll.

As Dole increased his lead in the polls, Bush's campaign began to go on the attack in Iowa. Dole, who trails Bush nationally, responded in

kind. The first flare-up occurred in December when the Bush campaign accused Dole of straddling the fence in his support of the new intermediate- and short-range missile treaty with the Soviet Union. Dole had said that as a senator

who would have a vote on the paign's final month in Iowa to a treaty, he wanted to study it before

is not a narrow one, appealing only to a small segment of the nation," Robertson told his suphard in the final days before Monday's caucuses, with radio mes-sages airing up to the start of the 7 porters in the crowded basement 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 support ers 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

embracing it

But that explanation did not sit well with some Iowans, who had been told again that Dole was straddling in Bush television commer cials. Dole quickly moved to back the treaty and one-upped the vice president by appearing with Reagan on the day he announced his sup

Bush's broadside at Dole on the treaty prompted Dole to begin stepping up his criticism of Bush, aking digs at his wealth, his failure to answer questions about the Irancontra scandal and his largely ceremonial eight-year record as vice president in comparison with Dole's hands-on legislative career.

The vice president fired back in a speech at the National Press Club in early January, telling Dole to "get off my back."



saw the enthusiasm. I traveled the length and breadth of Iowa. People were coming out in great num-bers, 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 Robertson's forces had worked

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-orga-nized and out-hustled his own effort in Iowa.

At a news conference, Bush of-fered his congratulations to Senate him for a third-place finish in the Republican leader Bob Dole for his first-place finish and Robertson for his No. 2 showing. But he also had a message for his strength

GOP rivals: "Tell them I'm coming after them. I'm a fighter. I'm going to come back. I'm not going to be us. "You're getting into the big leagues now. This primary and then slinking around here. . . . I'll be out Super Tuesday." Bush is far and away the leader in at the plant gate tomorrow at 6:45 starting back to work again."

campaigning for next Tuesday's New Hampshire primary. The vice president said he didn't important. know if his bickering with Dole in recent days had hurt, and he refused to attribute his defeat to any specific

"I can't say I'm not disappointed, but I'm not down," he told reportin 1980. That year, Bush defeated Ronald Reagan in Iowa, but then Reagan roared back to crush Bush here and moved on to win the nomination and the White House. restricted situation of a caucus because of Robertson's potential "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 Speaking of Roberston, Bush said: "Organization: He out-hustled

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

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

Greeting supporters at a Monday morning breakfast, Vice President George Bush begins a day of Iowa

Iowa surprises send GOP scrambling into New Hampshire

Continued from Page A-1

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; Ro-bertson, 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 Hamp-shire)," Moody said. "It's a very, very tough state.

Robertson said Monday he had sensed momentum building for him polls suggest." in Iowa in the last few days because Eight years ago, Wittgraf was on top of the political world after helphe had broadened his base of support beyond religious followers ng lead Bush to victory over Ron-

"A few weeks ago, it looked hardald Reagan in the Iowa caucuses. pressed to come in third," he said. That win made Bush the alternative 'Second place would be excellent because that would mean I was able being asked to share the GOP ticket to defeat a sitting vice president in a as the vice presidential candidate. state he won in 1980.

The Robertson factor

The Bush camp's fear of Robertproved no match to the superior son in Iowa materialized early Mon-day night when the TV evangelist organizational efforts of Dole and Robertson. In addition, Dole and Robertson jumped ahead of the vice president had compelling messages for their supporters, Dole emphasizing that early in the caucuses and held on. Bond, who ran Bush's Iowa campaign in 1980 and in the last few his small-town roots in Kansas onths of 1987 and 1988, had said made him more like Iowans and Robertson's zealous following Robertson stressing the need to reensured that the former TV preachturn to basic social values. er would be able to turn out the vote stressed that he was more like in Iowa.

And George Wittgraf, Bush's lowa campaign chairman, had been Midwestern farm state. By emphatelling reporters for weeks: "Robertsizing his own small-town roots and son is a much bigger factor than the understanding of agriculture. Dole

Tireless Iowan credited with organizing Dole's win

By Stephen C. Fehr political director. Every four years in Iowa, politi-Washington Correspondent DES MOINES, Iowa — The engineer of Kansas Sen. Bob Dole's first-place finish in the Iowa caucuses on Monday night cal star-makers are born. In 1980, for example, Iowa Republicans marveled at the ability of Rich Bond, who was the architect of George Bush's victory. Today, Bond is Bush's national political was a 30-year-old farm boy from Knoxville, Iowa, who built Dole's Tom Synhorst, whose only This year, Synhorst, 'a 1979 previous experience in politics was graduate of Iowa State University, as an assistant press secretary and finance director for the 1980 and is receiving much of the credit for Dole's success. "Tom's the jewel in Dole's crown right now," said Alan Finch, Grassley's press secretary. 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 Even Bond had kudos for counterpart: "I have the highest 99 counties. "Tom had the complete dedicaregard and the utmost respect for tion to see that the things we were

aught on in Iowa's rural areas. Because agriculture is so important to Iowa and Dole is such a spokesman for agriculture, most lowans see Bob Dole as someone Midwest. who understands their problems, said Republican Sen. Charles Grassley of Iowa, who backed Dole. Grassley, who won election in

1980 largely by playing up his smallwhich the vice president kept together in the last eight years, 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 On the stump, Dole's speeches

could have supported either Bush or Dole, "I get a more homey feeling Iowans because he too, was from a with Dole. Bush is in more of a presidential atmosphere." Dole was in his element with

and Grassley operative, said Syn-horst's effort in building Dole's horst and Grassley shared the trait organization was the key to the of perseverance. senator's win. Synhorst "just doggedly pursues

"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 Republially independent of the Washington campaign office. can political operative in this Synhorst, who is modest and

state low-key, said he had no plans to Grassley said: "Since organizacontinue in the Dole campaign tion is so important in Iowa, he's a He has been working in the Grasskey person. Success or failure has ley and Dole campaigns for three to rest on the organization, after straight years, missing out on a lot the candidate himself. John Maxwell, who was Grassof other experiences.

going to do in Iowa got done," said Floyd Brown, Dole's Midwest publican Party executive director and who now directs Dole's politi-"I just want some time off," he said

> Iowans. He frequently would tell Iowans, "I'm comfortable here," the unanswered questions was whether Dole would be able to atand would slip into the slang of the tract enough activists to build a campaign organization in Iowa's 99 ounties

> Winning by organization Dole had practically no organiza-Dole and Robertson also benefittion in 1980, when he couldn't mused from Iowans' unhappiness with ter even one supporter per precinct.

> He finished seventh in a field of the Reagan administration, of which Bush was a symbol. And seven that time: behind Bush, Reagan, Howard H. Baker Jr., John Bush didn't help his standing with Robertson followers by winning Connally, Philip Crane and John Anderson Michigan's caucuses last month under controversial circumstances.

Finally, Dole and Robertson proved that Iowa was won with a lot of hard work in organization.

Robertson, of course, garnered his support from his ready-made constituency in charismatic and Pentecostal churches. All along, polls had showed his support stronger among people definitely planning to attend the caucuses than among all Republicans. Dole built his organization from a base in rural farm areas.

Going into the lowa race, one of

popularity into an organization?' I think he's done that." The turning point in Dole's or-ganizing effort came last year when,

as Dole tells it, "Chuck Grassley came to me on the Senate floor and said, 'I want to help you.' That was a big statement for him, because he has never endorsed anyone in 28 vears in politics."

uestion was. 'Can he translate his

What Grassley was able to do for Dole was ask some of his top Iowa operatives to join Dole's campaign Many of them did, and Dole had a ready-made organizational struc

put him on par with us immediate-ly," said Bush's Bond. "That was

Working feverishly, Grassley's supporters sought to identify Dole supporters in every county and then make sure that they turned out Monday night. Their goal was to deliver big margins for Dole in rural farm areas and make sure that Dole

Grassley concluded that it was the strongest he had ever seen in Iowa

control over his campaign than most candidates do, did everything that Grassley's organizers asked of

in Iowa than Bush did, and he was able to navigate through lowa's

"Bob Dole came a long way in Iowa," said Mike Mahaffey, state

Dole's biggest strength.

held his own in the cities. A few weeks ago, after assessing the depth of Dole's organization,

politics. Dole, who likes to exercise more

He spent more days campaigning

small towns easier because he was

GOP chairman. "A year ago, the the vice presidency.

things," Maxwell said. "That's how Grassley is as a legislator." A measure of Synhorst's respec within the Dole campaign is that he has been able to have Dole's confidence and has operated virtu-

ture. "Getting Grassley's organization



