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negative treatment than the Democratic candidates.

This trend, however, was not limited to the TV screen. In my view, it was prevalent in the major newspapers, and the weekly news magazines, particularly Time and Newsweek.

In fact, the magazines outdid themselves with their endless psychological term papers on the candidates.

Mr. President, there has long been a double standard when it comes to political coverage. And the USA Today study is the latest evidence to back up that fact. So far this year, we Republican candidates have had to bear twice as many negative minutes during network newscasts as our Democratic counterparts.

Republicans are used to it, but we don't like it.

LIBERAL NEWSROOMS

Mr. President, I realize the media have a tough job. And I have great respect for most of the reporters I have dealt with during my 28 years on Capitol Hill. But something is out of whack—and something is disturbingly unfair—when news coverage becomes so slanted; and the issues get lost in the daily hype.

So why the double standard? Well, look at the newsrooms. Let's face it, they tend to be liberal. In all honesty, how many Republicans are out there covering the candidates? or Congress? I don't think I could guess more than a carload—a Chevy Sprint would probably do it.

But do liberal reporters consciously have it in for Republicans? I don't think so. Do they dislike Republican candidates? I doubt it.

In my judgment, reporters try to be objective. But try as they do, they just cannot help but see the world through liberal colored glasses. Maybe it is all the result of the Vietnam years, or Watergate fallout, or some kind of generational distrust of Republicans.

Actually, I am less interested in reasons than I am in some changes.

THE PEOPLE LAP THE FIELD

I suppose the real news is that the American people continue to lap the field, leaving politicians and reporters in the dust.

Of course, they have a better perspective than we do, they were not on the campaign plane.

Great Bend Tribune, Wednesday, July 20, 1988 Page 2

Dole stresses importance of new American leader

By CHUCK SMITH

News Editor
Sen. Bob Dole shed little light on the possibility of him being chosen as George Bush's running mate, but he did reflect on his recent campaign for the highest office in the land when he met with supporters in Great Bend Tuesday afternoon.

"I did get elected president of Iowa," he joked about the primary circuit. Dole added that he ran into trouble when he went head-to-head with the Reagan image which he sees as benefiting Bush. "We couldn't defeat Reagan in the South."

Although he made light of his campaign experiences, Dole also noted that this is a very important time for Americans. "It's a very important election. People say it's a game. It's not a game. Who do we want to lead America?"

While Dole's talk was not without political barbs for the Democratic candidates, he did congratulate Gov. Michael Dukakis for his choice of

running mate. "I think Dukakis made a good choice. I think Lloyd Bentsen is a good choice and he understands the energy business."

That's going to be important for whoever the next president is, especially if America's heartland is to spring back from its current troubled times, Dole stressed.

In fact, Dole's strong stand on energy self-sufficiency could be the reason he's not still in the campaign, he said. "I may have lost the election because I stuck with an (oil) import fee."

Dole believes there should be a floor set for the value of American oil and that foreign oil should be imported with a fee which places it \$2-\$3 above that floor.

That was a notion he found to be unpopular in the East.

But out here, Kansas is now operating 40 rigs, compared to a peak of 240. "You've got a lot of people out of work and you've got a lot of loss of activity. We've got a pro-

blem. What we need to do as a nation is start producing more here to be more self-sufficient."

It will be difficult to get oil producers back into some areas, unless it is shown that the profit potential is there, he added. "You've got to have some reason to think you're going to make a profit or there's no reason to get into it. We need to do some things to get this industry back on its feet. It's very weak."

While importing oil is not the answer to America's energy needs, Dole said the country must still show a presence in the Mideast or else risk losing its influence there. "The question in the (Persian) Gulf is not just how much is oil, but do we have the right to be there?"

In the global picture, America must protect its interest in that area, he stressed.

But other countries, especially Japan, are benefiting from the American presence in the Gulf and Dole thinks they should help finance some other world problems. "We're

picking up most of the tab," he said, adding that Japan is much more dependent upon Gulf oil than we are.

Dole doesn't care for Japan's attitudes in other areas as well, and he sees a need for that country to be treated more harshly on matters of trade.

Whether it's Japan or a part of the European community, Dole said America needs to develop more reciprocity in foreign trade. When dealing with a country which restricts American trade, we need to be strict about how much that nation is allowed to import here. "We believe people ought to have the right to sell in our country, if we can sell in theirs," he said.

Whether it's the oil industry, the election or reciprocity of trade, Dole warned that decisions being made now will affect more than just the adults currently making them. "We're not looking at my generation. We're looking at 20, 30, 40, 50 years. That's when it's going to be important."

2A The Topeka Capital-Journal, Monday, August 15, 1988

Kansas delegates have Dole on minds

Chances for spot on ticket hot topic

By MARTIN HAWWER
Capital-Journal staff writer

NEW ORLEANS — The Kansas delegation to the Republican National Convention squared itself away Sunday for the four-day business of crowning its presidential and vice presidential candidate team.

Most of the 34 delegates and 34 alternates had arrived here by Sunday. They gathered to munch Pizza Hut-donated pizza and swap their hunches on whether Sen. Bob Dole would be chosen by Vice President George Bush to be his running mate.

Pizza Hut is a Kansas-based company with its home in Wichita. At a news conference Sunday at the Kansas delegation's headquarters suite at the Doubletree Hotel, Gov. Mike Hayden said he doesn't think Dole is campaigning for the nomination but said he would serve if asked.

"He is loyal to the party, and he will do whatever is asked to make this party successful," Hayden said.

"If we are strictly talking self-interest, Bob Dole is a great asset to Kansas in the Senate, where he is influential on our behalf, but from a broader perspective, he has a lot to offer the entire country."

He said as a vice president, Dole would bring "a wealth of congressional experience, foreign policy experience, to the presidency."

"It might be a little different role for a vice president with Dole on the ticket, because you go to your strengths when you have a vice president like Dole," the governor said.

"It might be a little different role for a vice president than we've seen. I don't think we have to worry about the president having trouble finding work, though," Hayden joked.

Just as George Bush has been a loyal vice president to Ronald Reagan, if Bob Dole is selected, he will be a loyal vice president to George Bush.

He said the race for the No. 2 spot appears to be narrowing to Dole, 65, Kansas' senior senator who dropped out of the presidential nomination race March 29, and New York Rep. Jack Kemp, 53.

"Bob Dole has a broad, well-known base in the Midwest where Bush is not strong," Hayden said. "You have to remember that Dole won Iowa, was strong in Oklahoma and that he nearly won the Missouri primary, which was on Super Tuesday, and which has kind of been forgotten."

"He has a strong base in the party, especially in the Midwest, and a strong base outside of the party,

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Norma Jean Steele, left, Derby, Kan., Sen. Bob Dole's sister, was all smiles Sunday as she showed off her Kansas sunflower. Steele dropped in at the Kansas Republican headquarters in New Orleans on

Sunday to pick up her credentials for the GOP convention. Next to Steele is Selma Steele (no relation) of Salina, Kansas president of the National Federation of Republican Women.

Sister has praise for Dole

By MARTIN HAWWER
Capital-Journal staff writer

NEW ORLEANS — Norma Jean Steele of Derby is convinced that Bob Dole is Vice President George Bush's answer to the so-called "gender gap."

Steele, who is Dole's sister, is watching the convention here to see whether her brother becomes the Republican vice presidential nominee.

"He'd solve the gap in a minute. He is popular with women; he respects them," Steele said.

"Look at his wife — she has a career, she is an equal and that's what you want."

"Remember, he had his picture in a magazine helping Elizabeth make the bed. He respects women."

"Elizabeth is almost his secret weapon."

"I think that he would change around the vice presidency a little, though. I know that much from growing up with him."

"He wouldn't settle for just going to funerals."

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Dole praised

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A friend of Steele's, Selma Steele of Salina, a longtime Republican stalwart who became friends with Norma Jean Steele "because we like each others' names," was also probing the gender gap, from the other side.

Selma Steele, Kansas president of the National Federation of Republican Women, was conducting an informal poll of female delegates and alternates on whether they would support Bush's presidential bid.

She has yet to find a female delegate or alternate who doesn't like Bush.

Lillian Papay, Great Bend, who has worked on Dole campaigns for more than a decade, said that although she likes Dole as her senator, "I just want him to do whatever he wants to do."

"And I'll tell you, that Bob is a gender-gap closer if there ever was one. He would fix that gender gap because he is popular with women because he respects them and the work that women do."

Norma Steele — "I go by Norma, but Bob never called me anything but Norma Jean ever since we were kids" — said she's not sure whether she's going to be able to watch much of the convention.

"I am not a delegate, and I don't have a ticket, unless I can wangle one somewhere," she said.

"I have a feeling I'll come up with something, though."