

Dole boosts prostate research

By Tom Webb
Eagle Washington bureau

WASHINGTON — Sen. Bob Dole said Friday that his prostate cancer shows no signs of recurring, but the ordeal has made him redouble his efforts to educate others about the disease.

On Thursday Dole hit the Senate floor with an amendment that would nearly quadruple the amount of money spent on prostate cancer research, from \$28 million to about \$100 million a year. He was joined by three fellow senators who'd also had prostate cancer recently.

Next week, Dole said, he's taking the prostate cancer battle another step.

"We're having a meeting in my (Senate) office next Thursday night called 'Us, Too,' which is a support group for prostate cancer survivors and their wives."

"They'll talk about impotence, they'll talk about incontinence," Dole said.

Dole plans to resume his normal campaign schedule in about four months.

"It takes time to get your strength back, I'll tell you that," he said.

The prostate is a small gland in men that sits at the base of the bladder, and it excretes the fluid contained in semen.

During his floor speech Thursday, Dole noted that one in 11 men will

contract prostate cancer, making it the most common form of cancer in American men. It kills 34,000 men each year.

"Few men living a normal life span of about 74 years will be free of some sort of prostate problem," Dole told his Senate colleagues Thursday. "But, unlike breast cancer, this very common disease has largely gone unmentioned by those who have received the unpleasant news."

Dole was joined in his funding amendment by Sens. Jesse Helms, R-N.C., Alan Cranston, D-Calif., and Ted Stevens, R-Alaska, all of whom have also had prostate cancer recently.



Sen. Bob Dole is pushing for greater awareness of prostate cancer.

Dole: State should expect defense cuts

The Associated Press
WASHINGTON — Senate Republican Leader Bob Dole said Friday that Kansas and other states cannot escape defense cuts, including possible National Guard closings, if lawmakers continue to shrink the Pentagon budget.



Dole

"If we're going to cut the defense budget ... we're all going to have to take cuts. You can't have it both ways," Dole said when asked about the fate of a Pentagon proposal to cut Guard and reserve forces to save \$20 billion over five years.

Dole said it's unclear whether Congress would approve all of the Pentagon proposal to eliminate 830 National Guard and reserve units nationwide, including about 3,200 troops in Kansas over two years.

However, the Kansas Republican complained that many lawmakers were opposing the Guard and reserve cuts even though they previously advocated defense cuts larger than those recommended by the Bush administration.

Dole didn't join the opposition to the proposed cuts, but neither did he endorse the Pentagon's package. He said he supported across-the-

board defense budget cuts. "Certainly it's important to our communities to have Guard positions and armories ... but if we're going to cut defense and reduce the deficit and do all the things that we want to do, we're probably going to have to absorb some of it ourselves," Dole said.

He said Kansas "got off pretty easily" in the proposed Guard closing in the current budget year. The Pentagon called for eliminating 814 Guard and 44 Naval Reserve positions in 1992.

Under the Pentagon's proposal for 1993, a Guard unit in Dole's hometown would be closed. Dole said he had not asked the Pentagon to spare the Russell unit and was unaware that it was on the hit list until he read news reports.

On other issues, Dole said: "He expected that Arkansas Gov. Bill Clinton would win the Democratic presidential primary in Kansas on April 7. Dole said former California Gov. Jerry Brown would be "a hard sell in Kansas."

"He didn't know whether he had written any bad checks on his account in the House bank when he served in the chamber during the 1960s. Dole was elected to the Senate in 1968.

"I hope I don't have any bad checks," said Dole. "I don't know if it, and I wouldn't have any records going back that far."

Dole predicts more House retirements

From staff and wire reports

WASHINGTON — Congress likely will see more members retire because of the growing anti-incumbent sentiment among voters, Senate Minority Leader Bob Dole said Friday.

The Kansas Republican also suggested that a Kansas congressman might face re-election problems because of the House bank scandal.

"I think a lot of them are going to check out. That means if they've got a lot of checks in the House bank, they're going to probably retire," Dole said in a telephone news conference.

So far, 47 House members and seven senators have announced they won't seek re-election this year.

Dole cited Rep. Vin Weber, R-Minn., who announced his retirement on Thursday.

Weber had written 125 bad checks on his account in the now-closed House bank.

He said he was retiring in part because he faced a "vicious campaign" based on personal matters, such as the House bank.

Dole described Weber as "one of the bright young Republicans" in the House.

But Dole predicted that any House member with 75 to 150 bad checks was "going to have a hard time explaining that" to voters.

"If they've got over 100 checks, I think they're in the soup," Dole said.

Dole did not mention any Kansans by name, but his remarks clearly could apply to Rep. Dan Glickman, a Wichita Democrat who has said he wrote 107 bad checks on his account.

Jim Petterson, Glickman's press secretary, dismissed Dole's com-

ments, saying the senator "sounds like the same old political hack."

In a telephone interview, Petterson said Dole "should spend a little more time worrying about national health insurance rather than what's going on" in the House.

The congressman has said he never intentionally wrote an overdraft but was careless in keeping track of his checking account.

Dole also decried the House decision to hire a professional administrator as day care for adults. "They (the House) voted to add a new layer of bureaucracy, the so-called Professional Administration Department, which would be all Democrats, all people appointed to patronage positions," Dole said.

"And who's going to pay for all this new bureaucracy? Of course, the taxpayers. To me that's not reform. That's additional spending we can do without."

And efforts to streamline the Department of Agriculture will continue, Dole said. The senator credited The Kansas City Star for its Pulitzer Prize-winning series on the department that ran last December with triggering a look at the agriculture bureaucracy.

"I think it (streamlining) is going to be pretty popular, even with those of us from farm states," he said. "Secretary (of Agriculture Edward) Madigan was pretty candid when he came before the Senate (Agriculture) Committee about the need to make changes."

"He's asked each state committee to report back to him and try justify all their expenditures in every office. So, we don't want to affect farmer service, but I think this might be the example that if we can cut costs in this one agency, then maybe we can do it in every other agencies. I'm certain we can."

Dole says several agencies need cuts

By Ray Hemman
The Hutchinson News

Efforts to streamline the Department of Agriculture bureaucracy should be expanded into other areas of the federal government, said Sen. Bob Dole, R-Kan.

Congress can even look at itself, the state's senior senator said during a telephone press conference with Kansas journalists Friday.

"We're not just talking about saving money," Dole said, answering a question about the goals of streamlining the USDA. "Sometimes, you get so much bureaucracy, you can't get anything done. You can't get a decision made. You keep going from one desk to the next desk. The paper trail is almost endless."

"Saving money, certainly, is a high priority. Service, certainly, is a high priority. I would say service, saving money, reduction of bureaucratic red tape (should be the goals)."

Dole said review of any government or private agency periodically is good. Congress even needs to look at itself to see if it is running as efficiently as possible.

"I'd be the first to say that maybe we ought to start taking a look at our staff — my staff and everybody else's staff — and say, 'Can you get along just as well with one or two people less?' Every staff in the federal government has grown. I'm certain the same is true in The Hutchinson News and everywhere else over the past 10 or 20 years. But we need to take a look, from time to time, to see if we can be more productive at less cost."

In terms of increasing USDA efficiency, Dole said he did not oppose the consolidation of certain county offices if the service to farmers can continue to be provided efficiently. Wednesday, the Senate Agriculture Committee will have a hearing on the structure and management of county offices within the USDA.

"My view is that if we can do it and still provide the service and save money, it ought to be done," the senator said. "... Most of the critics are focusing on county offices that have a high ratio of delivery costs to producer benefits paid out. So that probably wouldn't affect many Kansas counties."

Most of the counties that are coming under review nationally are those where it costs more to keep the offices open than those offices pay out in farm benefits. In Kansas, the highest ratio of costs to benefits is about 20 cents of administrative cost for every dollar of farmer benefits, Dole said. In most counties, the ratio is less than 5 cents of administrative costs to \$1 of farmer benefits paid out.

"But if we can find some areas of Kansas that can be reduced, save money and still provide effective service to farmers, then I think we have to save the money," he said.

Also during the press conference, Dole agreed with portions of an announcement made that morning by President George Bush and disagreed with others. Specifically, Dole said he agreed that there should be a ban on political-action-committee money in elections.

On the other side of the coin, Dole disagreed with term limits on members of Congress. The president proposed a 12-year limit on all congressmen — two six-year terms for the Senate and six two-year terms for the House.

"My view is that voters can limit terms anytime they want," the senator said.

Dole spreads the word about prostate cancer

By Ray Hemman
The Hutchinson News

Sen. Bob Dole, R-Kan., talks with aplomb about certain subjects that give other men the willies.

Words like "incontinence," "annual physical" and "cancer" are frequent words in the Senate minority leader's lexicon. Dole uses the words regularly at every opportunity, hoping to make other men part of a growing group — survivors of prostate cancer.

Last winter, Dole had surgery for prostate cancer. He was not the first member of Congress to have the surgery, and statistics indicate he will be far from the last. As men age, their chances of developing prostate cancer or other prostate problems increase.

Since returning to work, each week that Dole has held his weekly telephone press conference with Kansas journalists he has made some mention of his recovery or of efforts to increase public awareness of prostate cancer.

During a mid-March meeting with 31 men and women who are involved in the Kansas Agriculture and Rural Leadership program, Dole looked directly into the eyes of each man and told them to get screened.

Last Friday, Dole was asked about his recovery from the surgery.

"Pretty good," the senator said of his recovery. "I hope to start traveling a lot next month. I had to hold until May and then start running back and forth to Kansas. That will be four months, about the normal period my doctor says it takes to get most of your strength back."

"You know, I've been pretty lucky. I haven't had much trouble with incontinence. A lot of people I talk to have had, and that makes it pretty difficult to travel around. It takes time to get your strength back. ... It's something men ought to be alert to and they ought to go see their doctor. He'll tell them

what they need in addition to the digital exam. They made need the PSA (prostate specific antigen) blood test. They may need something else."

Dole said follow-up tests show he is free of the cancer and there have been no further treatments suggested for him.

Currently, only \$28 million is spent annually on prostate cancer research while \$2 billion annually is spent on AIDS research.

"I don't fault that, I just don't think we spend enough," he said. Between 34,000 and 38,000 men die annually from prostate cancer.

Thursday Dole along with Sens. Alan Cranston, D-Calif.; Ted Stevens, R-Alaska; and Jesse Helms, R-N.C. — all survivors of prostate cancer — sponsored an amendment to raise research to \$100 million from \$28 million.

"We don't think it's had enough

'It's something men ought to be alert to and they ought to go see their doctor.'

— Sen. Bob Dole



More lawmakers will 'check out,' Dole says

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The number of congressmen retiring because of anti-incumbent sentiment among voters is likely to grow, Senate Minority Leader Bob Dole said last week.

The Kansas Republican also hinted that he thinks Rep. Dan Glickman, D-Wichita, could face re-election problems because of the House bank scandal.

"I think a lot of them are going to check out. That means if they've got a lot of checks in the House bank, they're going to probably retire," Dole said in a telephone news conference Friday.

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on personal matters, such as the bank.

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"If they've got over 100 checks, I think they're in the soup," Dole said.

Dole didn't mention any Kansans by name, but his remarks clearly could apply to Glickman, who has said he wrote 107 checks that the House Bank held for various reasons.

Jim Petterson, Glickman's press secretary, dismissed Dole's comments, saying the senator "sounds like the same old political hack."

In a telephone interview, Petterson said Dole "should spend a little more time worrying about national health insurance rather than what's going on" in the House.

Glickman has said he never intentionally wrote an overdraft but was careless in keeping track of his checking account.

Asked in a recent interview how people in his district had responded to the check disclosure, Glickman said, "What I found ... is that there does not seem to be a willingness to judge me or very many others on this basis alone."



Dole

Dole's war chest so far being filled largely by political action committees

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Senate Republican Leader Bob Dole of Kansas raised more than \$300,000 for his re-election campaign during the first quarter of the year.

Three dollars of every \$5 raised by Dole came from political action committees, according to new reports.

Dole, who is seeking a fifth six-year term in the Senate, had \$2.1 million in two campaign accounts as of March 31, according to financial reports filed with the secretary of the Senate.

The senator has been raising money with his 1992 re-election campaign committee but also has



Dole

paigns.

During the first three months of the year, Dole collected total contributions of \$310,952. PACs gave \$198,800, or 63 percent of his contributions. Individuals accounted for

the rest.

PACs are formed by corporations, labor unions and other groups to make contributions to federal candidates using money donated by their employees, members and stockholders. Under federal law, corporations, banks and unions cannot directly contribute money from their treasuries to House and Senate candidates. PACs can give up to \$10,000 to a candidate, \$5,000 each for the primary and general elections.

PACs affiliated with agricultural and food industry companies gave at least \$38,000 to Dole, and insurance industry PACs contributed at least \$21,000.