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Hutchinson News Saturday, May 2, 1992 Page 5

Drought relief in question, Dole says

By Ray Hemman
The Hutchinson News

If the drought in a portion of western Kansas does not spread, it could spell trouble for wheat farmers who choose to seek disaster assistance from money that already has been appropriated, said Sen. Bob Dole.



Dole

Last fall, Congress approved \$100 million in disaster aid for spring crops because of the anticipation of bad weather, said Dole, R-Kan., during his weekly telephone press conference with Kansas journalists.

The 1992 wheat tour found that an area of western Kansas from

roughly Colby south and east to Lewis and then south and back west to Oklahoma was extremely dry. The worst area is in the general vicinity of Dodge City, but pockets of extreme dry are spread across the area.

For example, one farmer near Wright said he had received 7 inches of rainfall from April 1991 through April 1992, not enough to bring one wheat crop to harvest, much less two.

If the drought is widespread enough across Kansas and surrounding states, there would be little question about whether the \$100 million of drought disaster aid would be available. The money was contained in a supplemental appropriation bill last fall.

"It would be up to the president (to release the money)," Dole said.

"I think we could have some impact in that area. If (the disaster) has to suffice the drought provisions of the law."

But what if the drought is confined to only a relatively small area of Kansas?

"That raises a good question," Dole said. "What if only 15 or 20 counties are affected and the rest of the state is good? We may need special legislation or regulations to address that."

Participants in the 1992 wheat tour came up with an average forecast for the crop of 375.9 million bushels, which would be a 3.55 percent increase over the 1991 crop. The first official government forecast of the crop will be May 11.

The prospects for the wheat crop in central and much of northern Kansas are as good as last year.

The southwest and west-central areas of the state, however, are worse.

The senator also discussed his plans for re-election. Dole has yet to file formally for the Senate, and some newspaper columnists have speculated that he might be hedging on another term.

Dole said that's not the case. "We are sending out petitions now," he said. "We will file by petition (for the November election). A lot of our volunteers want something to do. They want to get out and talk to people."

Dole delayed a re-election announcement until early this year because of prostate cancer for which he underwent surgery during the winter. The senator said checkups after the surgery had shown no traces of the cancer.

THE WICHITA EAGLE Wednesday, May 6, 1992

Wichita to get Doppler radar earlier than expected, Dole says

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The National Weather Service is speeding up installation in Kansas of a radar system to help improve the detection of tornadoes, Senate Minority Leader Bob Dole said Tuesday.

A new Doppler radar in Wichita is expected to be ready for operation in August, Dole said, rather than late this year or early 1993 as originally planned.

"This next generation of high-tech tornado-warning equipment is vital to Kansas and will put Wichita one step closer to getting the technology it needs to give its citizens the advance warning they deserve," Dole said in a state-

ment.

He said the director of the National Weather Service had notified him of the new radar installation schedule for Wichita.

Goodland is expected to receive the new radar later this year and Topeka in 1993, Dole said. Dodge City already has the new equipment.

Radar works by transmitting an electronic pulse and listening for it to bounce back. The time it takes to return tells the radar the distance to the object reflecting the radio pulse.

The new radar is known as NEXRAD, for Next Generation Weather Radar.

Saturday, May 9, 1992 THE WICHITA EAGLE 7A

Congress won't touch casinos, Dole says

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Senate Republican Leader Bob Dole said Friday he opposes proposals by Indians to establish casinos in Kansas but doubts Congress would restrict the spread of Indian gaming across the country.

"I don't think ... it's a very good idea if you want my own opinion," he said of proposed casinos.

He acknowledged that Indians view the gambling operations as a way to create jobs and improve economic conditions.

But he said that casinos will also

result in a lot of people who can't afford to gamble losing their money and depriving their families.

Still, Dole emphasized that Congress had no direct voice in determining whether Indians in Kansas and elsewhere would be allowed to establish Las Vegas-style casinos.

"It's a matter that's going to be left to the states," he said.

Under a 1988 federal law, which was in response to a Supreme Court ruling, tribes can operate casinos in states that allow similar forms of gambling. Attorney General Bob Stephan has said a 1986 state constitutional amendment, which allowed a

lottery, was broad enough to permit casino gambling by Indians.

However, Stephan has challenged Gov. Joan Finney's right to enter into a compact with the tribes allowing casinos to be built and is attempting to force a compact with the Kickapoo Tribe to be ratified by the Legislature.

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Dole opposes Indian-operated casinos

By Barry Massey
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — Senate Republican Leader Bob Dole said Friday that he opposed proposals by Indians to establish casinos in Kansas but that he doubted Congress would restrict the spread of Indian gaming across the country.

"I don't think ... it's a very good idea if you want my own opinion," the Kansan said of proposed casinos.

He acknowledged that Indians viewed the gambling operations as a way to create jobs and improve economic conditions.

"(But) we're going to have a lot of people, who can't afford to lose money, are going to be losing money in the casinos," he said. "And they're going to have children who aren't going to be taken care of, and they're going to have to go

on welfare and all these sort of things."

Still, Dole emphasized that Congress had no direct voice in determining whether Indians in Kansas and elsewhere would be allowed to establish Las Vegas-style casinos.

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Under a 1988 federal law, which was in response to a Supreme Court ruling, tribes can operate casinos in states that allow similar forms of gambling.

Kansas Attorney General Bob Stephan has said a 1986 state constitutional amendment, which allowed a lottery, was broad enough to permit casino gambling games by Indians.

The Kickapoos have proposed opening a casino near Hiawatha, about 20 miles from their reservation in northeastern Kansas.

Gov. Joan Finney signed a compact with the Kickapoos to permit the casino, but a legal dispute has blocked its approval by the Interior Department.

Stephan has taken a case to the Kansas Supreme Court to force the governor to submit the casino compact to the Legislature for ratification.

Finney, a Democrat, contends she has exclusive authority as governor to sign the compact on behalf of the state.

Dole discounted chances that Congress would approve legislation revamping the Indian gambling law.

"I don't see anything happening at a federal level in the next few months," Dole said in telephone news conference with Kansas broadcasters and newspapers.

Congress has been asked by

some western governors and gambling opponents to change the 1988 law to restrict the spread of Indian gaming.

In Kansas, the Sac and Fox have proposed a casino in Kansas City, Kan. The Prairie Band Potawatomi are negotiating a compact with the state, and the Iowas have expressed interest in a gambling agreement. All of their reservations are in northeastern Kansas.

Dole also said he supported a constitutional amendment barring Congress from giving itself a midterm pay raise.

The amendment was ratified this week when Michigan became the 38th state to approve it. However, there are questions whether the amendment is valid because ratification took 203 years. The idea was proposed by James Madison in 1789.

The Salina Journal

LOCAL/KANSAS

Saturday, May 9, 1992 3

Dole opposes Indians' plans for casinos

By The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Senate Republican Leader Bob Dole said Friday he opposes proposals by Indians to establish casinos in Kansas but doubts Congress would restrict the spread of Indian gaming across the country.

"I don't think ... it's a very good idea if you want my own opinion," the Kansan said of proposed casinos.

He acknowledged Indians view the gambling operations as a way to create jobs and improve economic conditions.

"(But) we're going to have a lot of people, who can't afford to lose money, are going to be losing money in the casinos," he said. "And they're going to have children who aren't going to be taken care of, and they're going to have to go on welfare and all these sort of things."

Still, Dole emphasized Congress had no direct voice in determining whether Indians in Kansas and



Dole

Legislature passes bill outlawing casinos

By The Associated Press

TOPEKA — The Legislature Friday sent to Gov. Joan Finney a bill that would outlaw casino gambling in Kansas.

The Senate approved the measure, 36-2, after the House passed it, 116-6.

Under the bill, the Kansas Lottery would continue to be able to operate the lottery. The bill also would not affect the Kansas Lottery's ability to operate video lottery and keno if the Legislature approves them.

The bill is aimed at preventing the state's four Indian tribes from starting casinos.

Attorney General Bob Stephan has said the constitutional amendment passed by voters in 1986 that

allows the Legislature to create the Kansas Lottery also permits Indians to offer casino gambling.

"The fundamental question is, what is state policy," said Sen. Wint Winter, R-Lawrence. "What did we approve when we passed the lottery amendment? This is a kind of 'read my lips' bill. The lottery means lottery and nothing else."

Winter and others say Kansas did not believe they were approving casino gambling when they approved the lottery amendment.

Finney, a strong supporter of Indian gambling, has said she would veto such legislation.

Sen. Dick Bond, R-Overland, predicted that a veto would be overridden.

elsewhere would be allowed to establish Las Vegas-style casinos.

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Finney signed a compact with the Kickapoos to permit the casino, but a legal dispute has blocked its approval by the Interior Department.

Stephan has taken a case to the Kansas Supreme Court to force the governor to submit the casino compact to the Legislature for ratification. Finney, a Democrat, contends

she has exclusive authority as governor to sign the compact on behalf of the state.

Dole discounted chances that Congress would approve legislation revamping the Indian gambling law.

Health, other items

On other topics, Dole said:

■ He would hold a hearing May 27 in Hays on rural health-care issues. The hearing will be conducted like a formal session of a congressional committee, although it's not an official committee meeting. Health-care providers, such as hospital administrators, are expected to testify along with senior officials of the Department of Health and Human Services.

■ He supports a constitutional amendment barring Congress from giving itself a midterm pay raise.

The amendment was ratified this week when Michigan became the 38th state to approve it.

Under the amendment, a pay increase approved by members of the Senate and House couldn't take effect until after the next congressional election.

Sunday, May 10, 1992 The Topeka Capital-Journal

Dole blessed with funding

■ Senator's campaign finances rank sixth among candidates seeking re-election

By BARRY MASSEY
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Senate Republican Leader Bob Dole has accumulated the sixth largest re-election war chest among this year's Senate candidates, according to a new report.

Dole had \$2.1 million in cash reserves available to finance his re-election at the end of the first quarter of this year. At the top of the money list were Sens. Alfonse D'Amato, R-N.Y., with \$3.7 million and Bob Packwood, R-Ore., \$3.5 million.

Dole, who is seeking re-election to a fifth six-year term, ranked 35th out of all Senate candidates in total fund-raising, the Federal Election Commission said in a report released Saturday.

He collected \$1.3 million from 1991 through the first three months of this year.

The report also found that Dole ranked:

■ 30th in campaign spending, \$593,701 during the 15-month period.

■ Seventh in contributions received from political action committees, or PACs, \$790,150. PACs are formed by corporations, labor unions, trade associations and other groups to make contributions to federal candidates using money donated by their employees, members and stockholders. Corporations and unions cannot contribute directly to

congressional candidates using money from their treasuries.

■ 44th in contributions from individuals, \$422,051.

The top Senate fund-raiser and spender was a Democratic challenger from Illinois, Albert Hofeld, who lost in a March primary. He raised nearly \$4.5 million and spent \$4.8 million.

Nationwide, about 1,800 House candidates raised \$130.8 million and spent \$95.3 million during the 15-month period. A total of 237 Senate candidates raised \$116.6 million and spent \$74.8 million, according to the commission.

Combined House and Senate receipts were up \$55 million from the first 15 months of the 1989-90 campaign cycle.

Here are other findings on Kansas candidates, according to the report:

■ Rep. Dick Nichols, a McPherson Republican, ranks 8th among House incumbents in campaign debts, \$181,439. His 1990 campaign committee still has those debts for personal money that Nichols loaned to finance his first race. Nichols was a banker before his election to Congress.

■ Rep. Jim Slattery, a Topeka Democrat, ranks 39th among House incumbents in contributions received from PACs, \$200,900.

■ Eric Yost, a Wichita Republican, ranks 36th among House challengers in campaign receipts, \$110,324, and 19th in campaign spending, \$109,359. Yost, a state senator, will challenge Rep. Dan Glickman, D-Wichita, in the 4th District.

No Kansans were among the top 50 House incumbents in total campaign receipts, spending or cash reserves during the 15-month period.