



Dave Williams/The Wichita Eagle

The economy is Kansans' No. 1 concern, Dole says.

Voters grumpy, Dole knows

Advocates of social programs must come clean on costs, he says

By Jim Cross
The Wichita Eagle

Raising taxes or borrowing money to pay for new social programs in the wake of the Los Angeles riots is a risky remedy for the nation's urban problems, Sen. Bob Dole said during a speech in Wichita on Monday.

"American taxpayers are not real in much of a mood to ask for the

big-government spending machine to start spending more money and raising taxes without some answers as to how we are going to invest the money and whether it is going to have an impact," he said.

Calling himself the "Johnny Carson of the Senate," Dole quipped his way through a luncheon speech in front of about 250 members of the Wichita Area Chamber of Com-

merce. "Jerry Brown has an 800-number," Dole began. "You call him up and he tells you where to send the money. Ross Perot has an 800-number, too. You call him and he sends you the money."

Dole, a 24-year Senate veteran, was serious at times but often lighthearted as he spoke to the kind of audience that has been the core of his political support for many years: most of them Republicans, most male, most white and most in business.

As in Dole's two unsuccessful

presidential campaigns, he came off as a staunch fiscal conservative who sees himself fighting a battle against the big taxers and big spenders in Congress.

"Unfortunately, in Washington, they tend to measure anybody's effectiveness by how much they spend," he said. "If you spend more and spend more, that means you're doing a good job. Well, I don't think that is the answer that the people in this room are looking for."

The advocates of new social pro-

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Dole, Danforth: EC subsidy cuts are a step in the right direction

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — A European Community plan to cut agricultural subsidies could help break a deadlock in international trade talks but doesn't resolve all U.S. objections, farm-state lawmakers say.

"It is a step in the right direction. At least it's some movement," Senate Minority Leader Bob Dole of Kansas said of the European subsidy overhaul, which was unveiled last week.

Sen. John Danforth, R-Mo., a harsh critic of European subsidy practices, said the EC decision indicates "there is at least a possibility of a change of position on the part of the Europeans."

The United States has been pressing in international trade talks for sharp cutbacks in global farm subsidies, including internal price support and export subsidies. The United States and a group of food-exporting nations including Canada and Australia contend those subsidies prevent fair trade.

U.S. farmers say the EC subsidy system hurts them in selling American food products in Europe and undercuts them in trying to export goods elsewhere in the world.

The trade talks have stalled for months because of objections from the 12-nation European Community,

Sen. Dole has said European leaders appear a "little more optimistic" than U.S. officials about the chances that the subsidy reforms will lead to an international trade agreement.

which has held out for smaller subsidy reductions. The estimated 10 million farmers in Europe are a powerful political force.

On Thursday, however, European farm ministers agreed to an overhaul of the EC's \$40 billion-a-year subsidy system. The key element is a 29 percent cut over three years in guaranteed prices for European grain farmers and a 15 percent reduction in beef prices.

To receive the income subsidies, European grain farmers would have to take 15 percent of their land out of production.

EC officials say the subsidy reductions are designed to lower the

prices of European farm products to levels closer to the world market, which should lessen the need for export subsidies.

The Bush administration hasn't calculated the possible effects of the subsidy reductions on U.S. agricultural trade. And Dole cautioned that the European land-idling requirement might not lower crop production very much. For instance, European farmers could try to increase yields or idle their least productive acreage.

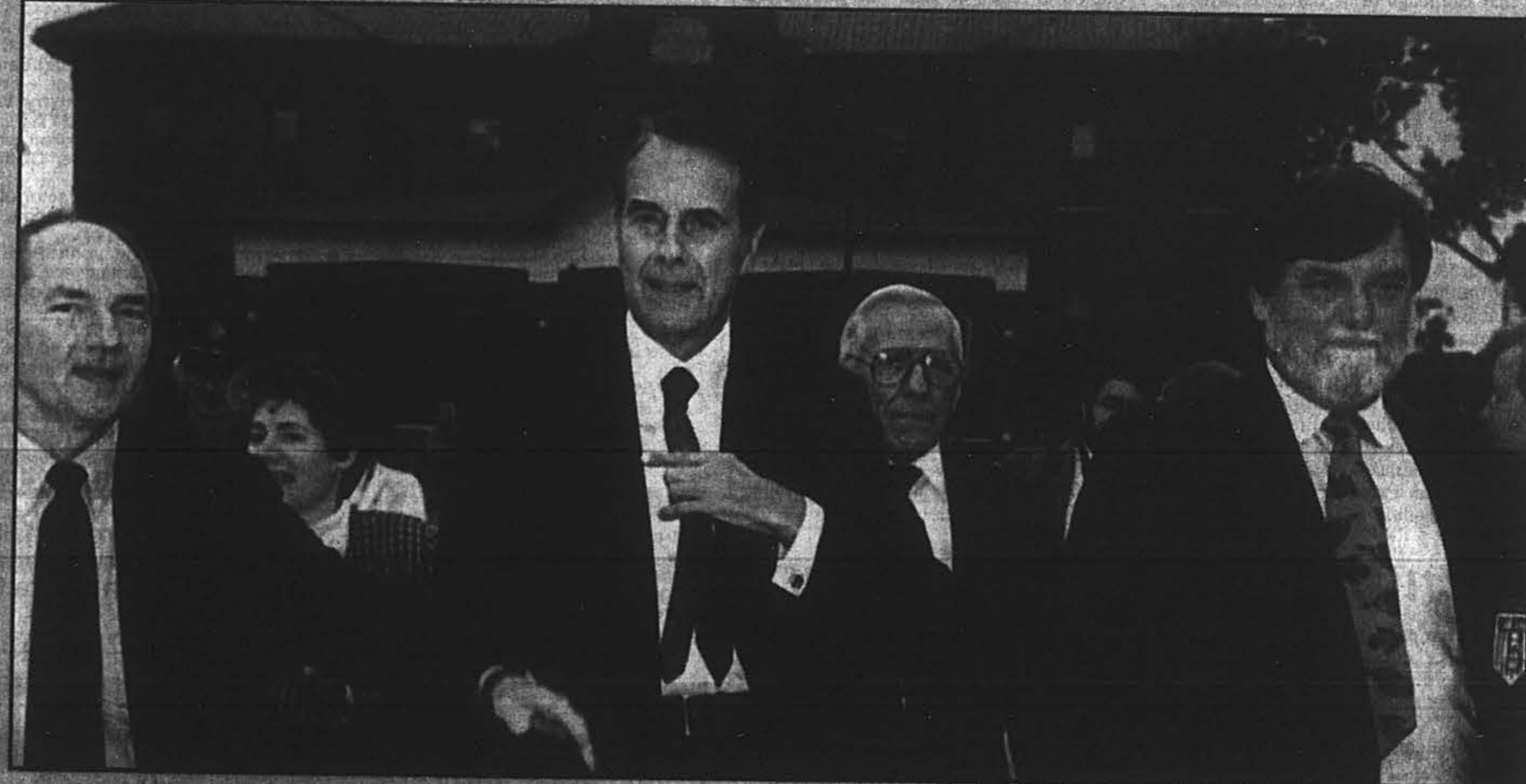
The European subsidies have caused overproduction of farm products and created large surpluses of grain, beef and dairy products.

Dole, in a news conference last week, said European leaders appeared a "little more optimistic" than U.S. officials about the chances that the subsidy reforms will lead to an international trade agreement.

"We're not there yet," Dole said.

Danforth said Friday that "progress on agriculture" has been the main U.S. goal in the trade talks, which are being held under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade.

"It looks as though there may be a glimmer of hope now," Danforth said.



—Amy Kunhardt/The Capital-Journal

Sen. Bob Dole, D-Kan., toured the new Flint Hills Job Corps Center on Wednesday with John Douglas, left, Job Corps Regional Director, and

Dave Maranville, right, director of the Manhattan-based center. Dole delivered the keynote speech of the dedication of the center.

Job center an 'investment in future'

Dole says the nation's newest job corps center, in Manhattan, is the beginning of a new life for at-risk young people

By DANA NEAL
The Capital-Journal

MANHATTAN — It was a red, white and blue day at the Flint Hills Job Corps Center here Wednesday.

Although the center began receiving students in February, an on-site ceremony Wednesday afternoon was the official dedication of the nation's newest job corps center.

The ceremony began with the pledge of allegiance and was highlighted by a keynote address from Sen. Bob Dole, R-Kan.

Dole was flanked on the red-draped podium by area dignitaries and others who were instrumental in as-

sisting in the nine-year struggle to establish a job corps center in Kansas.

However, the senator told those who filled the gymnasium for the dedication that the real dignitaries were the young men and women enrolled at the Flint Hills Job Corps Center.

"Today's ceremony doesn't mark the end of

the road, but is the beginning — the beginning of a new life for the men and women here," Dole said. "They're the future. They're the leaders of tomorrow."

The \$10 million center has the capacity to house and train up to 250 at-risk young people between the ages of 16 and 22 in vocational education, academics, and life and social skills. It is unique from other federal job corps centers across the nation because it is the first to also offer a solo parent- and child-development program.

The opening of the FHJCC ends a 13-year drought of

no new job corps centers in the nation, said LaVera Leonard, vice president of Home Builders Institute of Washington, D.C., and emcee for Wednesday's dedication ceremony.

Dole said the mission of the federal job corps program has never been more important than it is today, especially in light of the Los Angeles riots.

"We obviously need a skilled, productive, educated work force," he said. "This (job corps programs) may hold out hope for them — the unemployed, disillusioned young people in E.A. — too. It is expensive, but it's a human investment — an investment in the future."

Dole said he would be instrumental in helping establish additional job corps in the nation. He said he hoped to dedicate another one in Kansas some day.

Leonard said that nearly 1.4 million poor youths in America have reaped the benefits of this residential education and job training program since 1964 but that many Americans don't have a clear idea of what Job Corps is. Job Corps is the world's oldest and largest residential vocational training and basic education program for at-risk youth, she said.

"It is expensive, but it's a human investment."

— Sen. Bob Dole