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## O'Dell claims Dole obscuring his record

TOPEKA (AP) — Democratic challenger Gloria O'Dell is hoping to lessen the effects of Republican Sen. Bob Dole's new television ad, and is accusing him of trying to obscure his record on budget issues.

O'Dell, whose under-financed campaign has been able to put only one short-lived ad on television, held a news conference Friday to continue her attacks on Dole. Her campaign also attempted to raise questions about Dole's tactics in broadcasting the ad.

"It adds up to Sen. Dole skewing his record and misleading the voters of Kansas," O'Dell said.

Dole defended the ad's contents, and his campaign press secretary, Kathy Peterson, dismissed O'Dell's criticism as repetitive. The Dole ad features comments from two prominent Democrats in praise of Dole's work on the federal budget deficit.

"I think it's a very effective ad," Dole told reporters during a telephone conference call. "We're going to continue to run it."

So far, O'Dell has run a television ad on only one day and on a limited number of stations. She acknowledged she hopes to broadcast more television ads, but added, "It's not the sole carrier of the message, though."

The Dole ad, which began running on stations across Kansas on Thursday, features the comments of Texas Sen. Lloyd Bentsen and former Massachusetts Sen. Paul Tsongas, who ran unsuccessfully for the Democratic presidential nomination this year. Bentsen's comments come from a column he wrote this year, while Tsongas remarks were taken from a speech he made in September.

O'Dell's campaign claims the ad

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implies that the two Democrats have endorsed Dole and that he did not get their permission before using their remarks.

"They're in the public record," Dole said.

Jack DeVore, Bentsen's press secretary in Washington, said it would be incorrect for Dole to imply that the Texan has endorsed him. However, he did not criticize Dole's use of the Bentsen column.

"Sen. Dole didn't need senator's permission to do that," he said. "It's an accurate quote in so far as it goes."

On the deficit issue, O'Dell noted that Dole has long called the deficit "Public Enemy No. 1." She also noted that it has increased from \$6.1 billion in 1974 to its current level of almost \$400 billion.

She repeated her assertions that Dole talks tough about the deficit but does not vote to contain spending and that he is too tied to special interest groups to work effectively to cut the deficit. She also continued to tie him to the nation's savings and loan crisis, noting his support for industry deregulation in the early 1980s.

She also reiterated her position that the deficit can be cut if Congress increases taxes on wealthy individuals and eliminates tax breaks for big corporations, cuts defense spending and trims other "discretionary spending."

Peterson was not impressed.

"She calls a news conference and attacks Bob Dole — take 400," she said. "She's just too vague. She's not being specific."

Great Bend Tribune, Sunday, October 11, 1992. Selections at the Dole Archives, University of Kansas. <http://dolearchives.ku.edu>

### Opinion

## Dole puts together health care reform package

By SEN. BOB DOLE

Health care deserves to be the No. 1 issue in the national spotlight this year, right alongside the federal deficit as the priority issues for America. No doubt about it, with an election year raging on, there's been no shortage of talk about health care. But what happens after election day, when all the talk and finger-pointing is over and it's time to seriously address this priority issue? There will still be 35 million Americans without health insurance; there will still be the skyrocketing costs of health care; and there will still be a long-term and catastrophic care crisis.

That's why it's important to cut through all the political noise in this campaign year, so we can take a serious, non-partisan look at serious, non-partisan solutions.

We can begin by building on the strengths of our current health care system, still the best in the world. We have the best doctors, the best nurses, the best technology, and the best hospitals.

But all this good news doesn't mean we don't have problems. America is spending a staggering \$800 billion per year on health care and still not getting its money's



Sen. Bob Dole

worth. The challenge is getting the best return on our investment, and that means increasing access to the highest quality, affordable health care for everyone.

While no one has the perfect plan, a reform bill I introduced more than a year ago has been picking up support and now has the most co-sponsors of any plan before

the Senate. It would rely on free-market reforms to improve our current system, starting with relief for small business, malpractice reform, insurance reform, and greater use of managed care. In all, more than 95 million Americans would benefit from tax credits and tax deductions to help offset their health insurance costs.

It includes:

■ **Tax Code Reform** — One of the best ways to help low-income Americans purchase health insurance is through the use of refundable tax credits. We must increase the tax deductibility of health insurance premiums for individuals who purchase their own insurance and for the self-employed. For others, the current tax code allows individuals only a meager — if any — deduction for health insurance, and that must change.

■ **Expansion of Community Health Centers** — Federal funding of these centers has proven extremely effective in delivering better health care to underserved areas of America. These local centers help provide basic essentials, including checkups and immunization shots for children. Experts

say 7.5 million Americans could be helped by such centers during the next five years.

■ **Promotion of Managed Care Programs** — Imagine the savings in your annual health costs if a professional could tell you which programs you need and which ones you don't? And which insurance plan is right for you? That's why I am encouraging more Managed Care Programs where special coordinators cut costs and duplication with the advice you need to make the right decisions for you and your family.

■ **Small Group Purchasing** — Statistics tell us that 80 percent of the uninsured work in small businesses. That's why it makes sense to target incentives — not mandates — to employers

so they can join with other small businesses to obtain cost effective health care benefits for their workers.

■ **Insurance Market Reform** — Insurance companies should be prohibited from calculating rates so that certain individuals can't get any coverage, such as those with pre-existing health problems. We must also address the continuing problem of "job lock" where a worker is locked into his job because he knows he won't be able to get insurance coverage if he leaves.

■ **Federal Preemption of State Mandates** — There ought to be a basic package of health care coverage that is uniformly available in every state, instead of the present hodge podge of insured and uninsured services.

Some states mandates even provide coverage for non-basic services such as hair transplants, a policy that only jacks up costs. Federal preemption would permit insurers to offer the kind of basic service plans most Americans and small employers want and could afford.

■ **Medical Liability Reform** — In most states, malpractice insurance drives up the cost of health care. Unfortunately, insured patients don't get much of a return on that extra investment. They get neither swift nor fair recovery. A single federal approach to medical malpractice insurance could go a long way toward fixing the problem.

Just as important as what my plan would do is what it wouldn't

do: It wouldn't raise taxes or cripple small businesses with job killing mandates and huge payroll taxes, and it wouldn't create new headaches with a system of government health insurance or a massive new bureaucracy to regulate prices and ration health care.

If enacted, the reforms listed above would not be insignificant; they would represent a major step forward. One year ago, this package would have been considered too ambitious, too hasty. Not any more. The good news is consensus now seems to be at hand. And if all concerned parties will come to the table, we can do even more.

Finally, health care reform won't be complete until we also address one of the most compelling

problems facing us today — the extraordinary demand for affordable long-term care services.

That's why two years ago I co-authored the "Secure Choice" program, which would help make the right kind of quality long-term care available for more of our nation's seniors who suffer from the lasting effects of strokes, crippling arthritis, vision and hearing loss, Alzheimer's disease, or one of many other chronic conditions that render our loved ones incapable of taking care for themselves. I am hopeful that as the health care debate continues to build momentum, this worthwhile solution to this important health care challenge will get the attention it deserves.

The American public is entitled to first rate health care at an affordable cost. The complete solution to our health problems may take several years. However, this should not be used as an excuse to do nothing in the short term.

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## Is Dole good shepherd or pig killer?

By Tom Webb

Eagle Washington bureau

WASHINGTON — As a leading player on the national stage, Sen. Bob Dole performs many roles.

Sometimes the Kansas Republican plays the tight-fisted conservative, railing against government waste and "big-spending liberals."

And sometimes he plays Santa Claus for the Sunflower State, with his staff touting the piles of federal money he's delivered to Kansas.

Those two roles can conflict, particularly when critics point at Kansas projects whose national value is

less than crystal clear.

Take the recent case of military planes. Through a last-minute maneuver, Dole last month secured \$43.2 million so Wichita's Beech Aircraft Corp. could build 12 modified King Air planes for the Army Reserve. Beech was delighted. So was the Army Reserve, although it never asked for the planes in its initial budget request.

But the Bush administration opposed the spending because it is trying to trim the Reserve, not expand it. And one military watchdog group was downright scornful.

"It's a typical pork project," said Eugene Carroll, a retired rear admiral who's now deputy director of the Center for Defense Information. "It has absolutely nothing to do with defense."

Dole doesn't see it that way. The 12 planes, like the three Dole secured last year, will help the Army Reserve modernize its aging and piecemeal fleet, he says.

"It's an important task, and one that will keep our men and women reservists in the air and also keep

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our Wichita employees on the job," he said.

Beech wouldn't disclose how many Kansas workers would be affected by the work. Said company spokesman Jim Gregory, "All these jobs are in Kansas, and that's good."

But does the Army Reserve need the new turboprops? Dole and the Army Reserve say definitely. Carroll says absolutely not.

"As we strip down the active military and their traditional inventory of equipment from the buildup of the Reagan years, it frees up all kinds of goodies for the Guard and the Reserve."

Nor does Carroll have nice things to say about the \$16 million Dole secured so that Piaggio Aviation of Wichita could build four P-180D aircraft for the National Guard.

Nor about the \$35 million Dole secured in the Department of Defense appropriations bill to lease as many as 15 T-47 Cessna airplanes to fight drug-runners. But it's apparently quite popular at Cessna, a Kansas constituent.

The Pentagon had not requested any of these programs. Defense Department spokesman Pete Williams said he didn't know whether the military would protest these last-minute expenditures, as it has protested some congressional add-ons in previous years.

By military standards, the amount of money is relatively small.

Dole's Democratic opponent in the race, Gloria O'Dell, was predictably critical of Dole's campaign boasts about the projects.

"From what I've been able to see of Senator Dole, political considerations always come first with him, before good public policy," O'Dell said. "And campaign years seem to be the showcase for that."

While Dole frequently cites the power of his party seniority as a campaign issue, O'Dell said voters would not be swayed by his claims.

"It's not going to work. People know the extent of our problems and the difficulties we're having with the deficit, and this is a blatant ploy that people are rejecting this year," O'Dell said. "Using pork barrel to buy votes is too offensive when we're facing such serious concerns."

Not all of Dole's military spending work involves last-minute additions to modest programs. Dole fought for two large military programs, both of which have solid track records and the strong support of the military. One is the re-engineing work on the KC-135 tanker fleet, for \$526 million, being done at Boeing Wichita.

The second and newer program is the Air Force's TTTS "Jayhawk" trainer, slated for \$178 million next fiscal year. Those training airplanes are being built at Beech in Wichita.

Steve Koslak with the Defense Budget Project, a non-partisan research organization, noted one truism about accusations and denial of

### Bringing it home

A look at some of the money Sen. Bob Dole helped steer to the Wichita area:

#### Military spending Requested by the military

**\$526 million** for re-engineing work on the KC-135 tanker fleet at Boeing Wichita.

**\$178 million** for Air Force TTTS "Jayhawk" trainer built at Beech Aircraft Corp.

#### Not requested

**\$43.2 million** for Beech to build 12 modified King Air planes for the Army Reserve.

**\$16 million** for Piaggio Aviation to build four P-180D aircraft for the National Guard.

**\$35 million** to lease as many as 15 T-47 Cessna Aircraft Co. airplanes to fight drug-runners.

#### Other spending

**\$3.4 million** for new bus garage and bus maintenance facility in downtown Wichita. The rest of the \$5 million project will come from local taxpayers.

**\$2.2 million** for more improvements to Kellogg (U.S. 54).

**\$2 million** for an environmental center at Chisholm Creek Park in Wichita. Money is also coming from the city and state.

**\$2 million** to expand science education programs at the Kansas Cosmosphere and Space Center in Hutchinson.

**\$1.2 million** for water mains, sidewalks, streets and curbs in Plainview.

**\$960,000** for a fire training facility at McConnell Air Force Base.

Sources: Sen. Dole's office; research by Tom Webb of the Eagle Washington bureau



The Wichita Eagle

pork-barrel spending.

"Everyone concedes there is pork in the budget, but one person's pork is another person's critically needed program," he said. "It all depends on where you're sitting."

In that spirit, the late Sen. Quentin Burdick thought it perfectly reasonable to want to spend \$500,000 in tax money on a Lawrence Welk museum in his home state of North Dakota.

"There's no such thing as a bad appropriation for North Dakota," Burdick said.

Other money that Dole's office said the senator helped steer to the Wichita area:

■ \$3.4 million to help construct a new bus garage and bus maintenance facility in downtown Wichita.

The rest of the \$5 million project will come from local taxpayers.

■ \$2.2 million for more improvements to Kellogg. The money will likely go toward planning the new downtown traffic interchanges.

■ \$2 million for an environmental center at Chisholm Creek Park, at 29th North and Woodlawn. Money is also coming from the city and state.

■ \$2 million to expand science education programs at the Kansas Cosmosphere in Hutchinson.

■ \$1.2 million for improvements at Plainview. The money will go toward replacing water mains, sidewalks, streets and curbs in the low-income area.

■ \$960,000 for a fire-training facility at McConnell Air Force Base.

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## Dole has \$2.2 million in war chest; challenger O'Dell running a deficit

By Barry Massey

Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — Senate Republican Leader Bob Dole received \$24,000 in campaign contributions since midyear from executives and political-action committees of two Texas-based oil and gas companies, new reports show.

Dole collected \$10,000 from executives of the Coastal Corp. and their family members and \$5,000 from the company's PAC.

The Kansas received \$7,000 from executives of Enron Corp. and their wives and \$2,000 from Enron's PAC, according to campaign finance reports made public Friday by the secretary of the Senate.

The contributions were among \$300,000 collected by Dole during the last three months.

At the end of September, Dole had \$2.2 million stockpiled for his re-election, and his Democratic challenger had no cash reserves for her campaign.

Dole has raised \$321,603 and spent \$416,325 from July 16 through Sept. 30.



Dole

O'Dell

Gloria O'Dell, the Democratic challenger, collected \$66,590 for her campaign and spent \$71,369 during the three-month period.

Her campaign reported a \$99 deficit at the end of last month. In addition, the campaign listed debts of \$74,345.

Ms. O'Dell's latest campaign finance report was not available Friday from the secretary of the Senate or the Federal Election Commission. However, her campaign released a report summary Thursday was the deadline for candidates to mail the campaign finance reports to Washington.

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

money left in his 1986 Senate campaign account, which can be used in this year's race.

Dole had a balance of \$1.4 million in his '92 campaign committee and \$823,518 in his '86 account at the end of last month.

The latest financial reports show that Dole:

■ Spent about \$158,700 for television and radio advertising during the third quarter.

■ Contributed \$35,000 to Republican groups in Kansas: \$25,000 to state GOP accounts and \$10,000 to accounts to help state Senate and House candidates.

■ Contributed \$10,000 to the National Republican Congressional Committee, which helps candidates for the U.S. House of Representatives.

■ Received about a third of his contributions from PACs during the three-month period. PACs affiliated with the oil and natural-gas industry contributed \$18,000, and banking and financial PACs gave \$17,000.