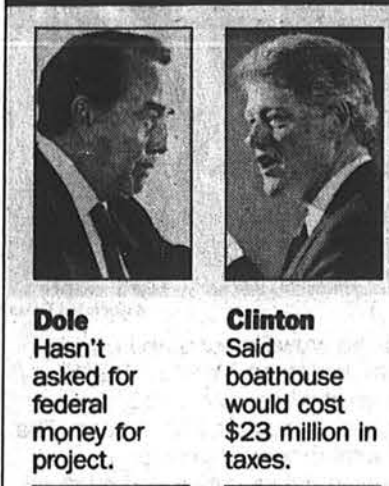


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Dole
Hasn't asked for federal money for project.

Clinton
Said boathouse would cost \$23 million in taxes.

DOLE

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beat 'stimulus' bill, and no truth coming from a White House staff that is ill-serving the president with these sophomoric attacks."

On Saturday, Clinton drew laughs from a banquet crowd by claiming that Dole had requested \$23 million in tax money to put a boathouse in Kansas. The remarks were made during a light-hearted program in which Clinton joked about his administration and his Republican opponents.

The truth is the Wichita boathouse would cost only \$850,000, and neither Dole nor others asked for any federal money. The proposed boathouse would be built along the Arkansas River south of Century II in downtown Wichita. It would be paid for entirely with private contributions.

Dole and Rep. Dan Glickman, a Wichita Democrat, did make one request of federal officials: that they permit the non-profit boathouse foundation to use an abandoned building on Lewis Street, which was partially purchased in 1980 with federal money. The building was scheduled for demolition.

"I think they'd want to apologize to the people of Wichita, for getting them caught in his political games," said Walt Riker, Dole's spokesman. "And he (Clinton) ought to apologize for the flat-out misstatement of fact."

In the meanwhile, Dole's office was notifying the media of the "White House's \$23 million lie," as Dole's statement was headlined. In it Dole says, "If the White House wants to play hardball, I'm ready to suit up."



Rep. Dan Glickman said he could come up with better examples of what the president was trying to convey.

Glickman isn't demanding an apology, but he does agree that "there was no federal money involved. It was an effort to deal with the regulatory problem of dealing with turning a vacant building into a boathouse. ... It looked to me like it was a pretty sensible request."

And though the White House got it wrong this time, Glickman said he wasn't so quick to let Dole off the hook for pushing questionable federal projects to Kansas.

"Quite honestly, I could find other examples a lot better," Glickman said.

Dole calls for truce in Wichita boathouse flap

By The Associated Press
WASHINGTON — Senate Minority Leader Bob Dole signaled at least a temporary truce Tuesday in the verbal sparring between the White House and Kansas Republican over a boathouse project in Wichita.

"I believe the president would agree with me that it's time to put words behind us and set sail toward the future," Dole said in a speech on the Senate floor.

At the White House, communications director George Stephanopoulos said the administration "regretted any misunderstanding" over a joke Clinton told about Dole.

Clinton said during a weekend speech that Dole was seeking \$23 million in federal money to develop the boathouse along the Arkansas River in Wichita. However, no federal money is involved.

Clinton poked fun at Dole by contrasting the senator's support of the boathouse project with his criticism of the administration's failed jobs bill, which Republicans said was larded with money for pork-barrel

projects such as golf courses and swimming pools.

Dole blasted the White House on Monday, describing Clinton's statement as a "\$23 million lie." The White House later issued a statement saying Clinton's comments were intended as a joke and the president was sorry for the misunderstanding caused by "any hyperbole."

At issue is a proposal by a private foundation, which wants to lease from a building from the city of Wichita and make it a boathouse.

The building originally was purchased with federal grant money for a senior citizens center.



Dole **Clinton**

The flap started last week when administration and Democratic Party officials accused Dole of hypocrisy during debate over Clinton's failed economic stimulus bill.

During that debate, Dole was harshly critical of what he called "embarrassing pork" projects in the legislation, including proposals to use Community Development Block Grant money for golf courses, swimming pools and shopping malls.

In taking on Dole, the Clinton supporters cited a letter he sent federal housing officials in March supporting a boathouse project in Wichita.

The building originally was purchased with block grant money for a senior citizens center that moved last year, so the city needs permission from federal housing officials to convert it to a boathouse.

At a dinner Saturday night, Clinton said Dole was seeking \$23 million in aid for the boathouse project at the same time he was criticizing the stimulus bill for its grant projects.

But there is no new federal money involved in the boathouse project. The renovations — expected to cost \$850,000, not \$23 million — would be paid for with private funds, provided the government approves changing the building's purpose.

"The White House lied," Dole said. "There's no \$23 million boathouse, no deficit spending, no new money, no connection with the president's dead-beat 'stimulus' bill, and no truth coming from a White House staff that is ill serving the president with these sophomoric attacks."

Dole roasts Big Bird

WASHINGTON — Senate Republican leader Bob Dole was introduced as "one of the toughest critics of public broadcasting" at public radio's annual conference Thursday.

He denied he was an enemy, but added: "I've already had breakfast. And by the way, Big Bird never tasted better." Last year, calling public television too liberal, Dole and other Republicans threatened to block expanded federal funding.

Love or hate him, Dole with attitude back in spotlight

By Tom Webb
Eagle Washington bureau

WASHINGTON — It's springtime for Sen. Bob Dole, national nemesis of President Clinton.

In a strikingly short time, Dole has cemented his place as the nation's undisputed Republican leader — and provided piles of grist for the long-running Kansas coffee-shop debate: Bob Dole, love him or loathe him?

"He's always generated either strong devotion or considerable antagonism," said Robert Peabody, a Johns Hopkins University professor who studies congressional leaders. "If you like him, he's like a vintage wine or whiskey, and he's mellowing and improving with age."

At the recent 100-day mark of Clinton's administration, Dole's admirers were exhilarated. Their man as Senate minority leader had deftly seized the national stage and projected the role of fiscal conservative, brilliant legislator, reality-check on liberals, tireless worker and Kansas power extraordinaire.

Yet to his detractors, the spotlight has showcased other traits: the legendary mean streak, a tiresome partisanship, a propensity to tear down instead of build up, a fixation on the White House rather than on Kansas.



Dole

Sen. Dole to Be In 3 Cities in State

United States Sen. Bob Dole, R-Russell, will be back home in Kansas this weekend — although not in Russell.

The Senate Minority leader will speak at 2 p.m. Saturday in El Dorado, at the 1993 Butler County Community College Commencement.

And, it being that time of year, Dole will also speak at 10 a.m. Sunday, at the Commencement Exercises at St. John's Military School in Salina.

From noon until about 12:50 p.m. Sunday, he is scheduled to be in Wichita, visiting the Wichita Boathouse and attending the KFDI Brunch.

Clinton, Dole back boathouse

By The Associated Press
WASHINGTON — It's no joke this time. President Clinton and Senate Republican Bob Dole are working together to help a boathouse project in Kansas that earlier had them feuding.

Clinton and Dole sent a letter Friday for a ceremony in Wichita, Kan., related to the boathouse project, which the president had joked about last weekend.

"We hope the \$23 million worth of free publicity we have generated for this project will make for smooth sailing in Wichita," said the joint letter, which Dole suggested to Clinton.

The boathouse project produced headlines after Clinton said Dole was seeking \$23 million in federal money to develop the boathouse along the Arkansas River. The president poked fun at Dole by contrasting the Kansas senator's support of the boathouse with his criticism of the administration's failed jobs bill, which Republicans said was larded with pork-barrel projects.

However, no federal money is involved in the boathouse project, and Dole accused the White House of a "\$23 million lie."

The White House later issued a statement saying Clinton's comments were intended as a joke and the \$23 million figure was "hyperbole."

At issue is a proposal by a private foundation, which wants to lease a building from the city of Wichita and make it a boathouse for local rowing groups and to rent canoes.

Dole lightens up as he takes shots at PBS spending

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Senate Republican leader Bob Dole was introduced as "one of the toughest critics of public broadcasting" as he rose to the breakfast podium Thursday at public radio's annual conference.

He denied he was an enemy. But then he added: "I've already had breakfast. And by the way, Big Bird never tasted better."

Dole's reputation stems from a Senate debate last year in which he and other conservative Republicans decried public radio and television as too liberal and threatened to block expanded federal funding.

The Kansas senator said it was a myth that he was against public broadcasting. The issue, he said, was whether federal funds during tough budgetary times should be spent on programs such as "Sesame Street," which makes big money selling products related to the show.

Dole: Allies needed before making strikes in Bosnia

By Barry Massey
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — The Clinton administration must have allied and congressional support before launching any military strikes in Bosnia, Senate Republican Leader Bob Dole said Friday.

Although European allies have been reluctant, the United States can't unilaterally begin air strikes against Bosnian Serbs, Dole said.

"We need to have our allies on board, and the president needs to prepare the American people. That hasn't been done either," Dole said in a telephone news conference with Kansas broadcasters and newspapers.

The Kansas said Clinton was correct in continuing to try to gain support from European countries for an international military action against the Serbs in Bosnia.

The president favors limited bombing of Serbian artillery in Bosnia and supplying weapons to the Muslims. Dole also supports those actions. However, the allies worry that could widen the war and lead to retaliation against British, French and other troops who are part of U.N. peace-keeping forces in Bosnia.

Military action in Bosnia by the United States isn't imminent or even inevitable because of the hurdles Clinton faces with Congress and European allies, Dole said.

"It seems to me that the president needs to keep the pressure on, and that's what he's doing," he said.

Dole contends the United States must help stop the ethnic fighting in Bosnia because otherwise it could spread into a war throughout the Balkans.

Clinton, Dole shape up boathouse ship

By Martha Swetson
The Wichita Eagle

Maybe the water really is under the bridge.

President Clinton and Sen. Bob Dole teamed up Friday to send a chummy letter — awash with nautical puns — to the supporters of a Wichita boathouse.

The political archrivals wished the group well in its fund-raising effort and pointed out a few things they have in common. For example, that their home states are linked by the Arkansas River — or would that be the Arkansas River?

"We certainly didn't want to miss the boat on this event," they wrote. "We hope the \$23 million worth of free publicity we have generated for this project will make for smooth sailing in Wichita."

Clinton put the boathouse in the national spotlight last week when he



Dole **Clinton**

accused Dole, a Kansas Republican, of flooding the project with federal money.

Clinton made the comment — and mistakenly said the boathouse would cost \$23 million — at a White House correspondents' dinner. It was supposed to be a joke, he explained later.

The boathouse skirmish ended up

in the Wall Street Journal, USA Today and on national television. It led to barge-full of feature stories about the planned downtown boathouse in newspapers from New York to San Diego.

On top of the well-wishing from some of nation's most powerful people, the boathouse got another boost Friday from one of the nation's wealthiest people.

Bill Koch, a former Wichitan and winner of the America's Cup, said he would donate \$500,000 more in matching grants to the Arkansas River Foundation, which is building the boathouse.

Koch had already offered \$500,000 seed money to the Arkansas River Foundation. The group says other donors have pledged about \$250,000. No public money is involved.

Richard Schodorf, vice president of the foundation, said the group needed \$1.4 million to get the boathouse project going.

The group is planning a slew of fund-raising events during the Wichita River Festival in an attempt to raise a quick \$250,000. If it works out, construction could begin as soon as the festival ends, Schodorf said.

"The Wichita Boathouse has captured the imagination of the country," Schodorf said. "Essentially, the people of Wichita need to show up at the fund raising to make it happen."

Clinton and Dole wrote in their letter that they wouldn't be here for the fund raising. Perhaps, if it falls flat, they could donate a little federal money? Then again, with the publicity they've stirred up, maybe they've already done enough.