

Hutchinson News  
Friday, August 20, 1993**Dole sounds more and more like candidate**The Associated Press  
WOLFEBORO, N.H. — Senate Minority Leader Bob Dole, vacationing in New Hampshire, hinted Thursday he'll be back in the state as a participant in its first-in-the-nation presidential primary.

"It's fair to say that, like a lot of people, I know what the calendar is and I know what's coming up in a couple of years," the Kansas Republican said in an interview at a lakeside resort town. "We're not going to kid anybody, we're up here looking around."

In 1988, Dole's presidential aspirations were sidetracked when George Bush defeated him in the New Hampshire primary.

The next New Hampshire primary isn't until February 1996, and Dole deflected criticism that his visit to the state means he's putting personal ambition above the business of government.

He said that in mid-1989, just months after Bush took office, Democrats including then-Sen. Al Gore and Sens. Bob Kerrey of Nebraska and Joe Biden of Delaware visited New Hampshire.

Dole also noted that other possible GOP contenders for 1996 have made recent stops in New Hampshire. His list included Sen. Phil Gramm of Texas, former Defense Secretary Dick Cheney, former Labor Secretary Lynn Martin and former Housing and Urban Development Secretary Jack Kemp.

Since arriving in New Hampshire on Saturday for a weeklong vacation, Dole has acted like a candidate, crisscrossing the state to attend various functions.

On Wednesday alone, he appeared on the three broad-

cast networks' morning news shows, went before a newspaper editorial board, spoke to a chamber of commerce, held a news conference with New Hampshire's Republican senators, Judd Gregg and Bob Smith, and wrapped up the day with a reception at an inn owned by Rep. Bill Zeliff, also a Republican.

Dole said whether President Clinton is unseated in 1996 will depend upon the economy. If the economy improves, Clinton will be difficult to beat, he said.

But the recently enacted Clinton budget plan makes an economic boom highly unlikely, he said.

"We just don't believe you can raise taxes and stimulate the economy," he said.

His job now is to keep the plan in voters' minds until the 1994 elections, when Republicans hope to make big gains in Congress, Dole said.

"The worst thing we can do is let people forget about it," he said. "But it's going to be hard for many to forget about it; they're going to be paying more taxes. There will be a lot of reminders out there."

When asked what type of Republican could defeat Clinton, Dole offered a description that could apply to himself.

"The American voters will look for someone with experience who's tough enough to stand up to Congress and somebody who has ideas about deficit reduction, growth and jobs," he said.

**Dole casts eye at presidential run in '96****Kansas senator measures New Hampshire support**

By The Associated Press

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Bob Dole is enjoying vacation time in New Hampshire, including an outing at Lake Winnepesaukee in Wolfeboro.

The Associated Press

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**Fishing for a nomination?**

Senate Minority Leader Bob Dole, R-Kan., hands a wooden fish over to his wife Elizabeth during a political stop Wednesday in Jackson, N.H. Dole told a crowd of about 100 that he did catch a fish while vacationing in New Hampshire for the week. In recent interviews, Dole said he has not ruled out a 1996 presidential bid.

Associated Press photo

6-A The Topeka Capital-Journal, Tuesday, August 24, 1993

**Dole takes early spotlight, little more**By JOHN KING  
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Nobody was fooled to begin with, so Bob Dole is telling anyone who asks the world's worst-kept secret: all those trips to Iowa and New Hampshire are made with a 1996 presidential run in mind.

It's way too soon to worry much about all this. But this much is clear a full 30 months before the first 1996 primary contests: If the third time isn't the charm for Dole in presidential politics, it certainly won't be for lack of planning.

"It's fair to say that, like a lot of people, I know what the calendar is and what is coming up in a couple of years," Dole said as he spent last week in New Hampshire. "We're not going to kid anybody — we're up here looking around."

Dole's not the only one looking. Any early list of potential 1996 Republican candidates is already crowded, and a few prospects are doing some early groundwork, including Texas Sen. Phil Gramm and three alumni of the Bush Cabinet: Lamar Alexander, Dick Che-

ney and Jack Kemp.

But none have been anywhere near as aggressive as Dole, whose early start does carry risks and may, if nothing else, force some of his potential rivals to be a bit more vocal.

"I would certainly say that if you have a national voice to make sure that voice is heard during this time period," said Republican pollster Ed Goetz. "But would I advise them to go up to New Hampshire? No."

The view of Goetz and many other Republican strategists is that trips to New Hampshire can't hurt, but don't necessarily help.

It's too soon, after all, to know what the political climate will be like for next year's congressional and gubernatorial elections, never mind the faraway 1996 contest.

"For all the work you do now, things could look very, very different by early 1995," said William Kristol, a conservative GOP strategist.

**ANALYSIS****Early campaign is risky for Dole**

By JOHN KING

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File photo

Sen. Bob Dole makes no secret of his presidential goals.

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**FROM PAGE 1****Political climate may change by '96**

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"Who the nominee will be depends on the mood of the moment, the zeitgeist," said GOP pollster Bill McInturf. "No one has a clue yet what the zeitgeist is going to be by the time we get to 1996."

Dole concedes as much, saying he won't make a final decision on running for some time. But that won't stop the Kansas senator, who unsuccessfully sought the GOP nomination in 1980 and 1988, from lining up early commitments in important primary states.

"The calendar is speeding up for everyone a bit because of Dole, more because of Clinton's weaknesses and because of the perception, which may not be accurate, that there are a limited number of operatives and a limited number of donors," Kristol said.

"I think a good chunk of the field will be known by the end of 1993, which is a little earlier than usual."

Because it's so early, most Republicans follow Dole's early jockeying with some amusement. But Democrats hope to turn it to their advantage.

While leading unanimous GOP opposition to Clinton's budget made Dole a hero to Republicans, polling data suggest a good deal of the public viewed congressional Republicans as

obstructionist.

So whenever Dole tries to stymie Clinton, expect Democrats to pin it on the GOP leader's presidential ambitions.

"I don't think he can even make an argument to the contrary," said Clinton strategist James Carville. "What he has essentially said is, 'I am the single most political human being in the history of America. I am running for president before anybody else, ever.'"

Republicans concede there is a risk for Dole and others in the party if they simply oppose Clinton.

But if the risk of being viewed as too political is Dole's dilemma, it is one he appears happy to live with.

"That risk is there anyway," Kristol said. "A bigger risk is to be viewed as a lame duck. For all these guys, it strengthens your hand if people think you might run."

Bob Dole thinks he might.

The Salina Journal Tuesday, August 24, 1993 7

THE WICHITA EAGLE Sunday, August 29, 1993

**Doctor? It's about Senator Dole...****N**eed help? Advice? Words of wisdom? Encouragement? Discouragement? If so, just ask Dr. Von Getzer. That's what he's here for. That and sweeping up. His answers may not be the best or brightest in the advice industry, but he always hustles, gives 49 to 50 percent, and never calls anybody "gentle reader."**DEAR VON GETZER:** I am just sick of the way The Eagle is out to get Bob Dole. When will those misguided people stop all this petty nitpicking and start concentrating on real news that matters, like how Hillary Rodham Clinton started using her maiden name again! — Herbie Kirby, South Derby.**DEAR HERBIE:** That's telling it like it is about the senator whom The Eagle endorsed, sir! All that nitpicking and quibbling is silly, being over such trivial things

as Senator Dole's 1988 presidential committee admitting accepting \$239,000 in illegal campaign contributions; exceeding by \$588,000 the amount that candidates could spend in the Iowa and New Hampshire primaries; illegally using private jets belonging to 15 corporations; accepting \$64,000 in illegal direct political contributions from corporations, and accepting \$42,000 in illegal favors from Campaign America, Dole's political action committee. Geesh. You'd think a Federal Election Commission would have something better to do with its time, wouldn't you, Herbie?

**DEAR DOC:** It's about Bob Dole. How come when all the stinky news hit the media fan about his organization's dynamic, loosey-goosey campaign spending habits, a feeble-minded voter such as myself just might have been convinced from what he said that it was the media,

not him, that had done something sloppy and evil? — Dane Crane, South Mulvane.

**DEAR DANE:** What kind of a dumb question is that, Crane? What was the poor, put-upon senator supposed to do? Accept responsibility himself, apologize and promise never to let it happen again? Get real, pal.**DEAR DOC:** It's about Bob Dole. He said in one of his love letters to The Eagle that his committee disputed many of the FEC claims but agreed to the record \$112,000 fine "to avoid a lengthy and costly legal battle." Doctor, does that mean the same thing as, "If we had the time and wanted to spend the money, we'd prove that most or all of those hundreds of claims are unfounded?" — Ray Fenter, Clay Center.

BOB GETZ

**DEAR RAY:** Yeah, I suppose so. Either that or, "Rather than spend a lot of time and money in a legal battle and then lose, I'll just tell people we'd succeed, save a lot of money, and hope most voters believe me."**DEAR MR. DOCTOR:** It's about Bob Dole. Senator Dole has complained that the FEC was too nitpicky. I also read where the FEC believed his campaign, among many other things, broke state spending limits in Iowa and New Hampshire by a total of \$962,000 — almost a million bucks! — but they settled

with Dole campaign lawyers on the amount of \$588,000. What, Dr. Von Getz, does the word "nitpicking" mean nowadays? — Sally O'Malley, Valley Center Heights.

**DEAR SALLY:** I guess that in this case, it could mean that, as always, Senator Dole is good for a laugh.**DEAR DOCTOR:** It's about Bob Dole. Senator Dole got the FEC to issue a statement saying that he personally had not been charged with any criminal wrongdoing, and Dole also seemed to emphasize that he himself did not violate campaign spending limits. Isn't it just a shame Mr. Dole had to be associated with all those apparently sneaky, inept people who might have hurt his reputation? — Jean Green, Upper Abilene.**DEAR JEAN:** You bet. I just hope that all those people, whoever they are, have apologized to him, the poor man, and that he never has anything more to do with any of those arrogant boots again!