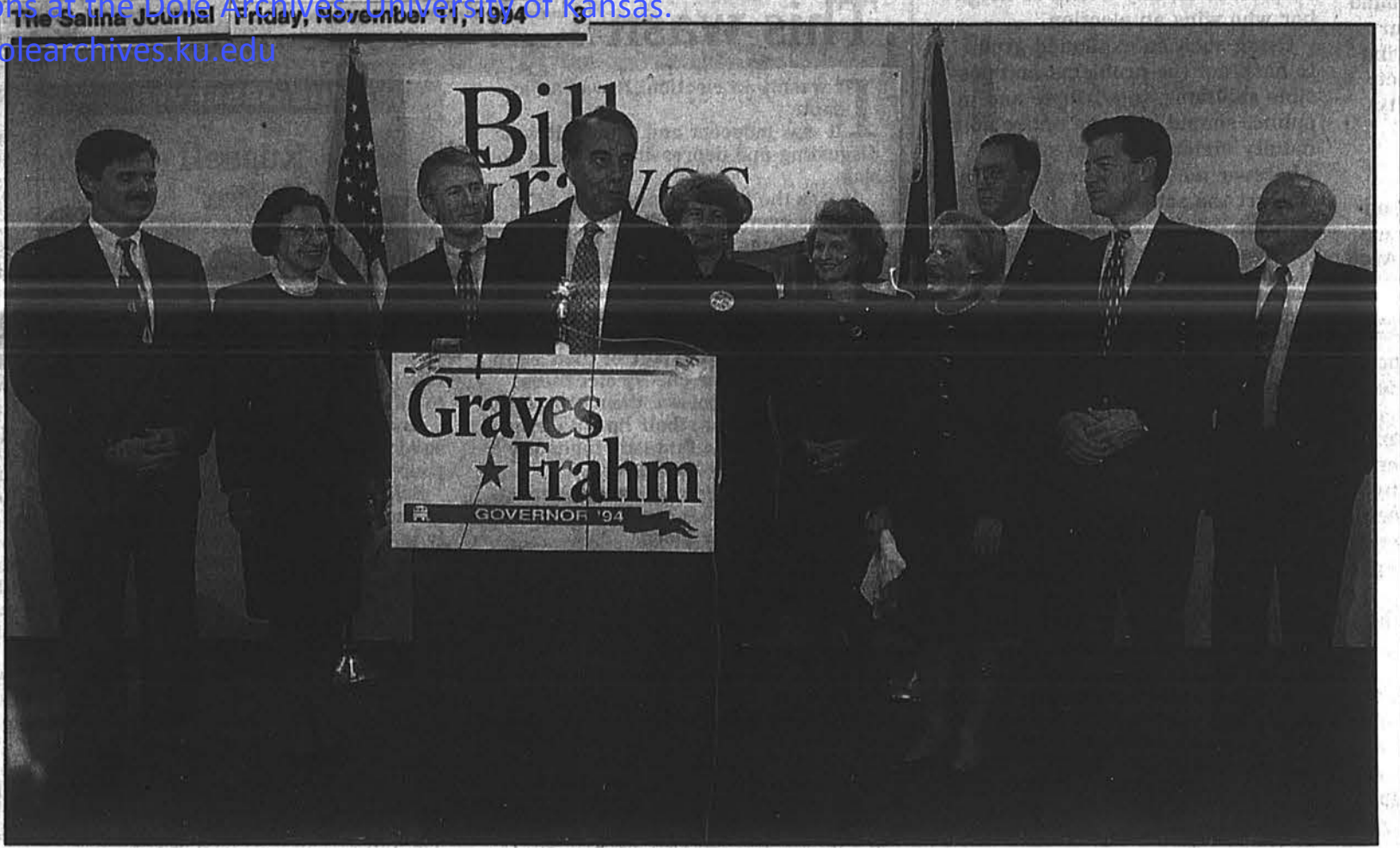


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Sen. Bob Dole (at podium) joins a host of newly elected Kansas Republicans on Thursday in Topeka. They are (from left) Rep. Todd Tiahr, Rep. Jan Meyer, Gov.-elect Bill Graves, Dole, Lt. Gov.-elect Sheila Frahm, Attorney General Carla Stovall, Sen. Nancy Kassebaum, Secretary of State Ron Thornburgh, Rep. Sam Brownback and Kansas Senate President Bud Burke.

THE WICHITA EAGLE Friday, November 11, 1994

Love fest unites victors

Kassebaum credits Dole for GOP gains

By Judy Lundstrom Thomas
The Wichita Eagle

TOPEKA — Calling Tuesday's election results a "sea change in politics," Sen. Bob Dole told Republican leaders Thursday that Kansas would be a big beneficiary of the GOP sweep that left his party in control of both the House of Representatives and the Senate.

"This is sort of a golden parachute for us, for Kansas..." said Dole, who will become the Senate majority leader as a result of the victories.

"We've got outstanding people elected in nearly every position. We've got a great nucleus here."

Dole spoke to reporters and to party loyalists who gathered at Forbes Field to greet the senator as he made a quick stop on his "victory tour" before heading to Iowa and Minnesota.

Those attending included governor-elect Bill Graves and all other Republicans elected to state offices and Congress, including Sen. Nancy Kassebaum and Rep. Jan Meyers.

As Dole arrived, he greeted his fellow Republicans with handshakes and back-slaps. "Congressman, how're ya doin'?" he asked state Sen. Todd Tiahr, a Goddard Republican who upset longtime Democratic incumbent Dan Glickman in the 4th Congressional District race. "You sure shook 'em up back there."

"This is a love fest if I ever saw one," observed David Schlosser, the political director for Graves' campaign.

Graves received a hefty round of applause when he told those attending that "we were gonna meet originally in a much smaller room, but by the time we counted the numbers, we had too many; we had to get a bigger room."

Dole said the election was a powerful message from voters "to give Republicans the chance, opportunity and responsibility." He added, however, that "we're not going to do everything."

"I don't suggest that Congress is going to have an 80 percent approval rating after two years of Republican control," he said. "But it's down to 18 now after all the Democratic years, so it's got no place to go but up."

"If we don't do any better, then put us go," Dole said he wants governors to become major players in the issues faced by the next Congress.

"I think what we need to do is work together and coordinate the House and the Senate, and (work)

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Republicans join for unity rally

By The Associated Press

TOPEKA — Sen. Bob Dole stopped in Kansas on Thursday for a unity rally with state Republicans who won election in the party's landslide victory two days earlier.

He presented fellow Kansas Republican Sen. Nancy Kassebaum with a white T-shirt that said on the front: "Bob Dole's Republican Victory Tour." The back of the shirt read: "Nine more in '94," referring to the nine Senate seats Republicans claimed from Democrats.

Tuesday's elections gave Republicans majorities in both houses of Congress for the first time in more than 40 years. Dole is likely to be the next Senate majority leader.

Dole said he did not see an anti-incumbency message in Tuesday's voting.

"We didn't lose a single Republican senator, House member or governor," Dole said during a news conference at Topeka's Forbes Field. "So it wasn't anti-incumbency, but I think it was a strong message."

He said Americans want to give Republicans a chance to govern.

"If we don't do any better, out we go," he

said. "My view is if we tried and failed, at least we've tried."

The Senate will have 11 new members, all of them Republicans. The GOP now has a 53-47 advantage in membership.

"I don't know how to describe it, just a powerful message from the American people," Dole said.

"Clearly the word 'reform' is part of the agenda," Kassebaum said.

She attributed the Republican successes in part to Dole's extensive travels throughout the nation, campaigning for Republican candidates.

"I think we have a powerful message from the American people that they think government is too big and spends too much," Rep. Jan Meyers said. "They would like us to address the problem of deficit reduction."

Dole said he believes he'll be able to get along with U.S. Rep. Newt Gingrich, a Georgia Republican who is likely to become speaker of the House. Some Washington observers believe there has been bad blood between the two, based on Gingrich's past comments about Dole.

"I don't think it's going to be difficult to work together," Dole said. "In his early days, when he was a back bencher, he used to throw a few bombs my way. That's in the past."

The state's top Republican Party officials participated in the rally.

Among them were Dole, Kassebaum and Meyers, as well as two new congressmen-elect, Sam Brownback of Topeka and Todd Tiahr of Goddard.

Gov.-elect Bill Graves and Lt. Gov.-elect Sheila Frahm were there, as were Attorney General-elect Carla Stovall, Secretary of State-elect Ron Thornburgh and the president of the state Senate, Bud Burke.

In addition, Kim Wells, the state GOP chairman; Jack Ranson, the state's GOP national committeeman, and Mary Alice Lair, GOP national committeewoman, participated.

Also attending were the only two statewide candidates who didn't win, despite the huge Republican tide: Insurance Commissioner Ron Todd and Randy Duncan, the GOP nominee for state treasurer.

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with governors," he said. "Governors are big players now, because I think many of us feel, and many governors feel, that some things ought to go back to the states. Give the governors the flexibility and get out of their way."

Dole received applause when he introduced Kassebaum as the new chairman of the Senate Labor Committee and Meyers as the new chairman of the House Small Business Committee.

Kassebaum credited Dole for the

overwhelming GOP victories.

"One reason that I will be chairman and Pat Roberts will be chairman and Jan Meyers will be chairman is that Bob Dole traveled all over this country for Senate races, House races and governor's races," she said. "He was tireless in his campaigning, and that made a big difference."

Meyers said the transition to a Republican-controlled Congress would be difficult.

"It's going to be such a dramatic difference in the House, because we haven't had control for 42 years," she said. "And then to be in such

substantial control..."

Dole said he didn't expect any problems working with Rep. Newt Gingrich, R-Georgia, who will likely become speaker of the House.

"In earlier days when he was sort of the back-bencher, he used to throw a few bombs my way, but I think that's passed," Dole said with a chuckle.

He said the so-called religious right played a role in the GOP victories.

"I think they were very active, as other groups were very active, and they have the right to be very ac-

tive," he said. "But I think beyond that, there's just an overwhelming wave out there of discontent and frustration."

Dole sidestepped the issue of whether he will run for president in 1996. When asked when he planned to announce his candidacy, he said, "Well, I'm not certain that's going to happen, but it won't be this year."

"My view is I've got to take a long hard look at whatever I'm going to do here before I make any decision. And my primary focus up until now was being out trying to help Republicans make money and get elected."

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Clinton, new GOP leadership to get their first test in GATT

Los Angeles Times/Washington Post Service

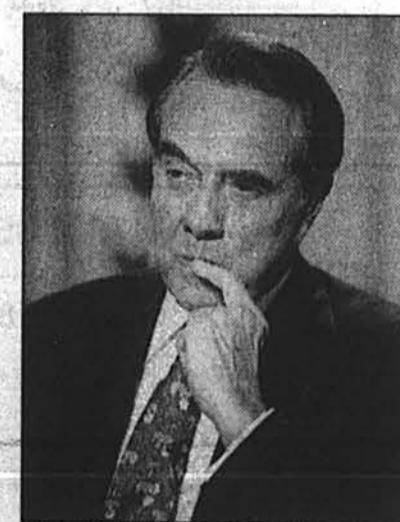
WASHINGTON — It was hardly mentioned in most campaigns, but legislation to implement a new world trade agreement is shaping up as the first test of the ability of President Clinton and the new Republican leadership on Capitol Hill to pull together on behalf of a goal they ostensibly share.

Because it at least technically adds \$31 billion to the federal budget deficit over 10 years, the trade pact also presents backers with a quandary in light of their campaign pledges to move toward a balanced budget.

The old Democratic-led Congress will convene one more time at the end of the month to consider legislation to put into effect the new General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, which was negotiated by 123 countries over the past eight years to reduce tariffs, subsidies and other trade barriers.

The rare lame-duck session, the first in 12 years, was necessitated when the bill, along with several others backed by Clinton and Democratic leaders, was blocked in both houses just before Congress adjourned in early October for the elections.

Even though it is the old Congress, with its Democratic majorities, that will consider the trade agreement, Republican votes are considered crucial to the legislation's passage, especially in the Senate, where it will take 60 votes to waive budget rules aimed at preventing increases to the deficit. Republican votes made the difference in passing trade legislation last year.



Sen. Bob Dole has misgivings about GATT and hasn't said how he will vote on it.

the more controversial North American Free Trade Agreement.

Rep. Newt Gingrich, R-Ga., who is in line to become House speaker next year, has said he will support the bill, and lawmakers of both parties have said they expect it to be approved by the House when it convenes Nov. 29. It was Gingrich who led the effort to delay the vote last month.

The outlook is less clear in the Senate.

Senate Majority Leader George Mitchell, D-Maine, said Wednesday he expects the legislation to be approved by the Senate, which will convene Nov. 30, with a vote scheduled the following day. But he conceded that there had been no vote counts, and others are more nervous.

The key player appears to be Senate Republican leader Bob Dole of Kansas, who will become majority leader next year. Dole has voiced misgivings about the pact, especially in regard to supra-national powers of the new World Trade Organization that would enforce the agreement, and has not said how he will vote on it.

Instead, Dole, normally a supporter of freer trade, has tossed the ball back to Clinton. "The president needs to get out front and tell the American people what the World Trade Organization is and what it isn't," he said at a post-election news conference Wednesday.

Dole said he thought the pact would be voted on this year, although some Republicans are pressing to delay it until next year.

For the second time in two days, Clinton pushed for bi-partisan support of the agreement. "The United States has been leading the world in pushing for the adoption of GATT," he said in a speech at Georgetown University. "Now we've got to follow through and lead once again. We should not delay GATT."

But Sen. Ernest Hollings, D-S.C., whose objections forced the Senate to delay its original vote on GATT, was pushing hard in the other direction for a vote, urging Republicans to hold to their deficit-cutting campaign promises. "Newt Gingrich, the new speaker-to-be, says he's going to read the Contract for America on Jan. 4 to balance the budget," Hollings said. "Republicans don't have to wait until then. We'll find out if they're acting in good faith... when the GATT vote is taken."