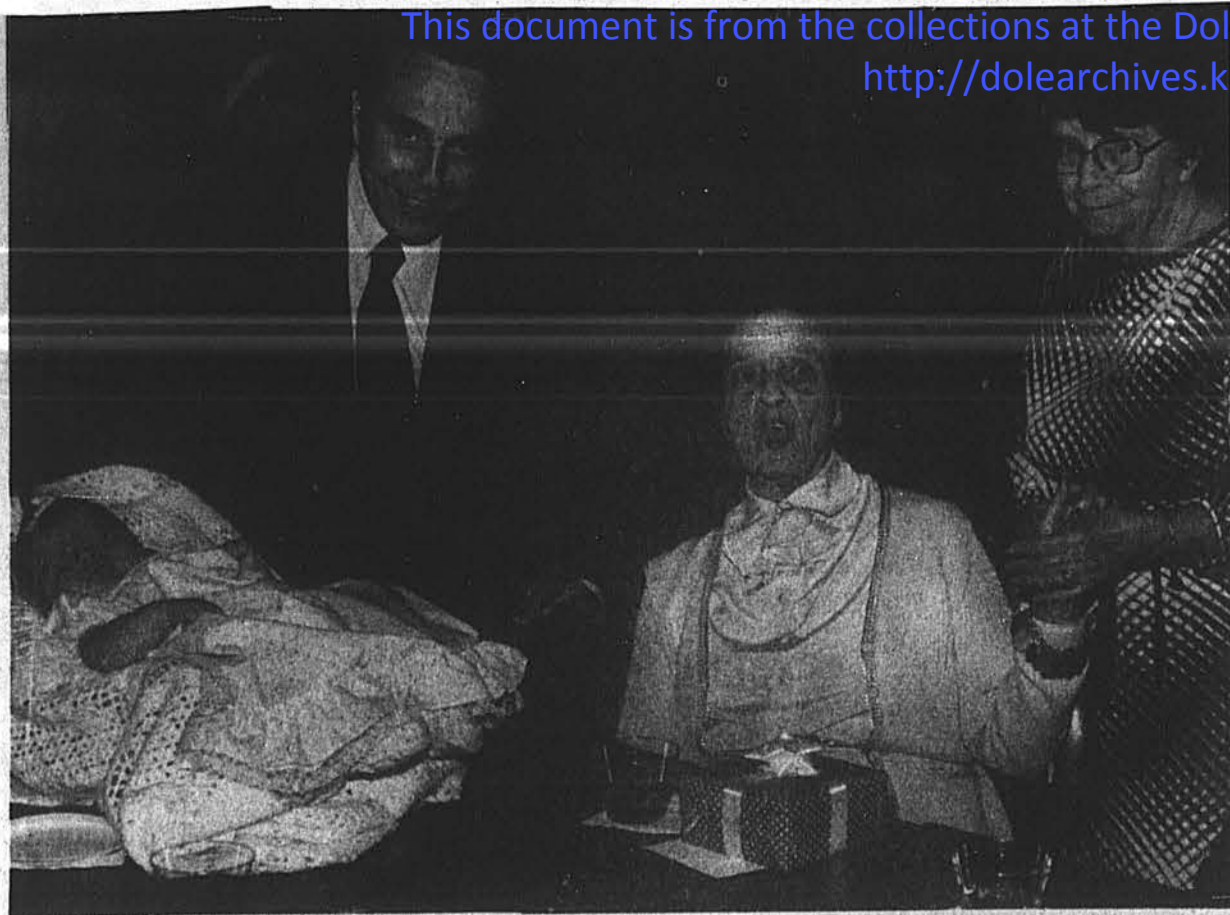


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BOB DOLE and his mother, Bina, center, and Anna Dawson are enjoying Bina's great-grandchild, Casandra Henke, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joe

Henke of Wichita. The informal reception was Bina's 77th birthday celebration, held at the Russell Elks Lodge on April 8, 1980. (Staff Photo)



A POWERFUL RUNNER, Bob Dole almost broke the indoor track record at The University of Kansas his freshman year in the fall of 1941. Here he is leading his opponents on the outdoor track.

Mount Oread can be seen in the background. At Russell High School, Dole lettered in football, basketball and track. At KU, he lettered two years in football and one year in track.



COUNTY ATTORNEY Bob Dole and secretary, in Dole's office in the Russell County Courthouse. Taken Aug. 29, 1955.



RUSSELL CONNECTIONS — Dole trio was photographed in the office of United States Senator Bob Dole in Washington a few years ago. Left to right are Webster Hawkins, first news editor of The Russell Daily News; Gladys Ann ("Schmitt")

Hawkins; and Senator Dole. She is the former Gladys Ann Schmidt, daughter of the late Amelia and Adam Schmidt. She was employed at the Dream Theater and Home State Bank before the Hawkines moved to Osawatimie.

Newspapers Have Been Aid to Dole

By WEBSTER HAWKINS
Editor and Publisher
Osawatimie Graphic

OSAWATOMIE — I have always felt the reason Bob Dole (and Arlen Spector, for that matter) held Russell in such regard was because of the way they were treated by the people—and the newspapers.

Through the years, the Dole news and photos have been extensive. Politicians, like all of us, like that support.

I can say this because Bob's national political offices have come about since I left Russell. But I've continued to follow the newspapers and the news of the area closely.

This reminds me of my early days in Russell and how I became involved in its newspapering. There are many around the community, no doubt, who don't know or may not remember.

It began after Lowell Hogue sold The Russell County News, a weekly newspaper he had founded, to the Townsley family of Great Bend in the summer of 1947. The latter family had a long history with The Great Bend Tribune.

The plan was to convert the Russell paper into a six-day daily to compete against the long-established Russell Record.

Russell T. Townsley and his wife, Jamie, moved to Russell and he became publisher. A brother-in-law, James Alan Coogan, was the editor of the Great Bend paper and he is the one who kept calling me at Columbia, Mo., where I was getting ready to graduate in August of that year from The University of Missouri School of Journalism.

Naturally I would be looking for a job. I was working my way through school as a linotype operator at a Columbia paper. Even in those days linotype operators were scarce, and I will always think Coogan offered me a job at Russell solely because I was a linotype operator.

Secrecy was the word in all this, because it was feared that Max Miller would convert the twice weekly Record to a daily.

So after graduation, I was told to catch a bus to Great Bend—not Russell—because the word might leak out.

I went to Great Bend, and the next day, Russ, Jamie and I went to Russell. They had rented a room for me from Bertie and Bill Moore on Main Street, just across the railroad tracks north.

On Labor Day, 1947, we spent the day at the old office—just across the street from The Record—getting ready for the new daily. It was launched the next day.

Many in the community, of course, doubted the community was big enough to support a daily paper. That was proven wrong many times.

A couple of years later, Allan D. and Evelyn Evans of Columbus, Kan., came aboard. He became manager and supervised the advertising and business operations, which had been needing assistance.

As they say, the rest is history. Al purchased part of the business and all of it when Russ retired. He's still at the helm of the two newspapers. The Record was purchased by The News in 1962. In 1968 the Natoma-Luray paper was added. It now is a part of The Record.

Not too long after Al came, the U.S. Army called me for two years. I came back and stayed seven more delightful years until moving here.

Dole Always Busy

Bob Dole was reared in Russell, Kan., the Oil Capital of his state. He was born only months before oil was discovered on Thanksgiving Day 1923 at the Carrie Oswald No. 1, the county's discovery well. Dole was always an outstanding individual. He was a good student and excelled in basketball, football and track during his high school years. As a young man he carried handbills and newspapers, mowed lawns, and jerked sodas in Dawson's Drug Store.



AS A JUNIOR HIGH student, Bob Dole was a handsome young man who was in school to learn and learned what was placed before him. He was always neat, well-mannered, and liked by his fellow students and his teachers and school officials.



BACKYARD PICNIC at the Dole family home on North Maple Street in Russell on an August afternoon in 1980.

Here's How It All Began

By WEBSTER HAWKINS
Editor and Publisher
Osawatimie Graphic

OSAWATOMIE — People often ask, "How did Bob Dole get to be a national figure?" Residents around Russell have all kinds of answers to the question because many were involved. But there are some variations to the answer:

Try this one:
One night, Huck and Marie Boyd were headed home from Topeka on U.S. Highway 40. They reached Russell and the Tower Cafe, at the intersection of the highway and Main Street, around midnight. They stopped to eat.

After eating, Huck said, "Let's drive up Main Street and see what makes this place tick." It was late.

At the Courthouse, they noticed a light in an office on the second floor on the northwest corner of the building. They got out and walked in, as the door was unlocked.

The open door in itself illustrates how times have changed. Climbing the stairs to the second

county attorney's office and there was this young, handsome, crippled veteran at work.

Huck was delighted. This Republican national committeeman, who was probably the most powerful politician in the state, was looking for someone to succeed Congressman Wint Smith, the Mankato Republican and World War I general, who planned to retire.

Huck, the Phillipsburg newspaper publisher, had found his man and the rest is history.

I heard the rumor and checked with Marie. She agreed that was what happened.

This is an example of political justice. Bob Dole had worked hard for Smith through the years when it came election time.

In later years, usually at newspaper conventions, Huck would talk about his good friend, the senator. He said Bob sometimes called and sought advice on a variety of issues. Sometimes, Huck would say, I told him (Dole) something he didn't want to hear, so I won't be hearing from him for a while.

But regardless, in that era Bob felt Huck was his most effective adviser.

This is illustrated by the senator's remarks at the founding dinner of the Huck Boyd Foundation in Topeka. The foundation was formed after Huck's death.

"Had Huck lived, I probably would not have been here tonight," Bob said. He was referring to his primary election loss to George Bush in the New Hampshire primary the last time the Russell native ran for the presidency.

As Bob told it, polls showed that year that he was leading Bush by about 6 percentage points in the Iowa primary. His victory was by about that margin.

Next was the New Hampshire primary. Again, polls showed Dole leading Bush by about 6 percent. But Dole lost by about that figure.

"Had Huck lived, he would have been up there (in New Hampshire) and would have known something was wrong," Bob told the dinner crowd. "And he would have known what to do about it," he said.

Good Luck
In Your Race to the Top
Senator Dole

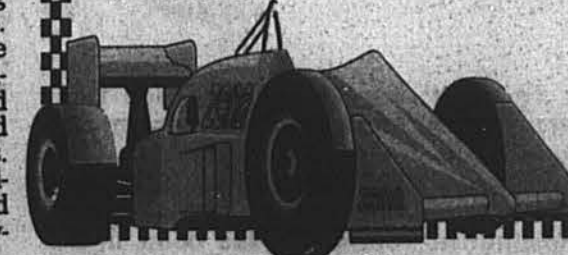
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