

line, which stretched outside the VFW post into the east parking lot, commented on Dole's visit.

Kenneth Conley of Great Bend, Sgt. 1st Class, U.S. Army, Retired, has always voted for Dole.

"I went to Vietnam," he said, "and I think we need someone who will stand up for America instead of us working for him personally."

"Integrity matters," Gerald Dubbert of Cawker City said of Dole, "To me he's ace high."

At a table in the parking lot, visitors could buy campaign buttons and ribbons made by the students of a Russell High School special education class.

One style ribbon which the students designed had the letters of Dole's name printed vertically so that they formed the first letters of the words "Determined Optimistic Leadership Experience."

Workers for Political Americana, a company which designs and sells political memorabilia, also worked the event, selling buttons, pins and wrist watches.

Boy Scouts from Russell Troop 118 assisted at the breakfast. At such an event, Scouts can earn service hours necessary for rank advancement.

Margaret Aksamit of Russell described Dole's speech as "Great. Course we think everything he does is great."

Leslie Hazelet of Russell was more reserved, saying, "I thought it was pretty good. It was pretty generic. He didn't commit himself to any issues, but now is not the time for that."

third run for the White House. He then embarked on a 10-state announcement tour, focusing heavily on the South, where he emphasized his increasingly conservative positions on such social issues as affirmative action, welfare reform and federal arts funding.

He confined his political comments in Russell to declaring again his readiness and fitness to lead. He denied he was acting out of personal ambition while admitting he was lured into the race largely by his party's unexpectedly strong showing in last November's elections.

"It just seems to me it's there," Dole said of his potential success in the race.

The most recent nationwide survey of likely GOP voters by USA Today and CNN had Dole leading his nearest intraparty challenger, Sen. Phil Gramm of Texas, by a margin of 46 percent to 13 percent.

Dole and Gramm were seen as leading seven other major GOP candidates for the presidency, including another Russell native, Sen. Arlen Specter of Pennsylvania.

"It's not because of ambition, not because of some selfish ambition," Dole said of his third presidential run since 1980. "It's because I love America."

endorsed the divisive proposal and affirmative action is expected to become a major issue in the 1996 presidential race.

Otis Jackson, treasurer of the network, said the group is working to create a bipartisan coalition to back their efforts to protect affirmative action in California.

"Affirmative action is equal employment opportunity," Jackson said. "The equal opportunity aspect of it is the law, affirmative action is no more than the plan to implement the law."

The proposal has been submitted to Bion Gregory, the state's legislative counsel, for help in fine-tuning the initiative wording. The group estimated that it will have to collect 1 million signatures to qualify the measure.

Faulett Frazier-Matthews, head of the California Black Republican Council and Wilson's former liaison to the black community, said she had been informed of the new initiative and was studying the issue.

Frazier-Matthews expressed initial support for the proposal to end affirmative action program in California.

"From what I've seen so far (of the California Civil Rights Initiative) I think its time has come," Frazier-Matthews said. "But I'm still studying the issue."

While affirmative action repeal has become a major issue for the Republican Party, Baker said such programs should be protected.

"When people discriminate against you they don't ask for your party affiliation," Baker said.

EDITOR'S OPINION

Dole returns home to visit friends

Bob Dole has come home to Russell, home to visit friends, home to gather strength for the long year ahead.

It is a natural thing to do.

Russell is where Bob Dole and his family rode out the Dust Bowl, where he returned to heal after his shoulder was splintered by a German machine gun in World War II, where he began his political career as county attorney.

Now he returns for the third time as a presidential candidate, and this time he is the front-runner.

Think of it — a president from Russell, Kan. But we wonder what kind of president he would be.

Dole is ahead of the GOP pack for many reasons. Name recognition is one; his phenomenal ability to raise money is another.

Still, most important of all may be his image as a statesman.

Dole has always been a Republican, tried and true, but a Republican you could do business with if you shared his moderate outlook.

That was the Dole who helped secure passage of NAFTA.

The Dole who disliked tax increases, but was willing to support them to cut the deficit.

The Dole who advocated a strong

military, but was cautious about sending U.S. troops to battle.

That was the Dole who could proclaim, correctly, "I can bring people together."

That is the Dole who is in danger of disappearing, of swallowed up by the far-right wing of the Republican Party.

The Dole who once backed a waiting period for handgun purchases, but now wants to repeal the ban on assault weapons passed last fall, even though polls show that the majority of Americans favor it.

The Dole who was once a proponent of affirmative action programs, but who now wants them scaled back or eliminated.

The Dole who never bowed to the religious right, but now says voluntary prayer should be allowed in public schools, although it already is.

Dole's appeal is that he is not Pat Buchanan or Robert Dornan. Or at least he has not been, until the last few weeks.

Let others have the far right. Dole should stick to common-sense politics, the politics he learned in Russell.

He should stick with the beliefs that have brought him so far.

— editorial by Gregory Halling

Bob Dole —

(Continued From Page 1)

The rally was opened by Russell T. Townsley, an ambassador from the Russell Area Chamber of Commerce.

He presented Dole with \$7,000 in donations for Dole's campaign. The money was contained in a box, in the tradition of the numerous cigar boxes into which Russellites dropped their spare change to help pay for Dole's medical expenses after he was injured in World War II and was returned to the U.S.

Townsley thanked the volunteers who helped in the preparations for Dole's visit.

"We have learned here in Russell that volunteers make things happen," he said.

Norman G. Staab of Hays, former national commander-in-chief of the VFW, spoke about Dole's war service and his support of veterans' issues.

Jerry Willis, VFW Post 6240 commander, unveiled a memorial, consisting of a stone slab with a plaque, which commemorates the 50th anniversary of the day Dole was wounded in World War II.

Russell Mayor Neal Farmer announced that a road east of the VFW post, linking from the Russell Municipal Golf Course to the Memorial Park Tennis Courts had been renamed Bob Dole Drive.

Farmer recognized the national recognition Dole has provided for the town.

In addition, Farmer said that Dole has shown the U.S. and the world "the honesty and integrity that we grow right here in Russell."

At the breakfast before the rally, the Doles ate pancakes, sausages and coffee supplied by The Pancake Man, a company from Council Bluffs, Iowa.

Elizabeth Dole had her plate filled at the serving line while the senator's plate was brought to his place at one of the tables.

People waiting in the serving

Dole Brings —

(Continued From Page 1)

large letters and an inscription noting the 50th anniversary of his nearly fatal war injuries.

Dole began the week nearly 200 miles to the east in the capital Topeka, where on Monday he officially announced the start of his



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Editorial Opinion

Dole Suck-up Watch 1

Keeping track of his groveling to the right

Here begins an effort to chronicle what may be the most disturbing campaign behavior since the Watergate break-in.

It will be given a name borrowed from a similar feature found in The New Republic magazine — The Bob Dole Suck-up Watch.

The New Republic first kept track of the media stampede to say nice things about Bill Clinton when he first became president. Now they do the same thing for things written and said to ingratiate the writer or speaker to the new man of the hour, House Speaker Newt Gingrich.

Our contribution to the genre begins, however, not as a list of things people say about Dole — the Republican front-runner for an election that won't happen for 18 months — but of things Dole says to make himself look good to the right wing of his own party.

Unfortunately, both for Dole and for the nation, the religious right has gained much influence over GOP politics. Word is that the party can't even consider a national candidate with a pro-choice position and expect to keep this important constituency in line.

Arlen Specter, another candidate for president and another graduate of Russell High School, is basing his whole campaign on rescuing the Republican Party from the clutches of the right wing.

Dole does not seem to have the guts to do the same. Of course, that is probably why he, and not Specter, is the front-runner.

In a speech Tuesday in Iowa,

home of the crucial first party caucuses, Dole sounded more like someone who is running for president of the 700 Club rather than president of the United States.

He blamed Hollywood and welfare mothers for our national distress, even though he knows government can do nothing about the former and won't spend the money to get the latter into real jobs.

At the same time Dole dismisses much of what is on prime-time TV as garbage, he talks about cutting spending for the one network that does not fit that description — the Public Broadcasting Service.

He accused President Clinton of surrendering in the War on Drugs. There may be truth in that. But Dole, like Clinton, should have realized long ago that it is too late to surrender in that war. It is already lost.

He wants to put more bad people in jail, though he knows we have been trying that forever and it does not work.

He called for a law to allow prayer in public schools, even though he knows organized prayers are blatantly unconstitutional and private, silent prayers have never, and can never be, stopped.

Many have questioned Bob Dole's ethics, methods and ends during the 35 years he has been in Congress. Few have questioned his intelligence.

Dole knows his job as president would be to run the government, balance the budget, reform welfare and find the right balance between federal and state power.

His use of the bully pulpit should be to unite Americans, not to divide them through petty arguments over TV shows or religion.

Dole knows better than to believe some of the things he is saying on the campaign trail. So should the rest of us.



Dole

Salina Journal 4-14-95

And Dole's spine

Stand on Yugoslavia takes real guts

As spineless as Dole may be in confronting the religious right in America, his resolute support for the victims of war crimes in the former Yugoslavia remains undiminished.

For his brave insistence that the United States, the world's sole remaining superpower, has some responsibility to stop the slaughter of whole cities, Dole has been made the subject of a vicious smear campaign by an outfit called the Serbian American Voters Alliance.

In a fax sent to this and other newspapers this past week, SAVA accuses Dole, in so many words, of being a Nazi. Because Dole stands up for the Bosnian and Croatian victims of Serbian attacks and war crimes in recent years, this previ-

ously unheard-of, self-appointed representative of the Serbian people blames Dole for the fact that, during World War II, Hitler set up a Croatian puppet state and appointed some of the most gruesome Nazi wannabees in the world to run it.

What happened 50 years ago is not Dole's responsibility. What is happens today is, whether he is a senator or president.

And what is happening today is an entire planet, freed of the terror of the Cold War, turning its back on the victims of some of the worst atrocities since Hitler.

Bob Dole, even though he knows it probably won't win him any votes in Iowa or New Hampshire, continues to speak out against this sorry state of affairs.

For that he should be congratulated, not vilified.