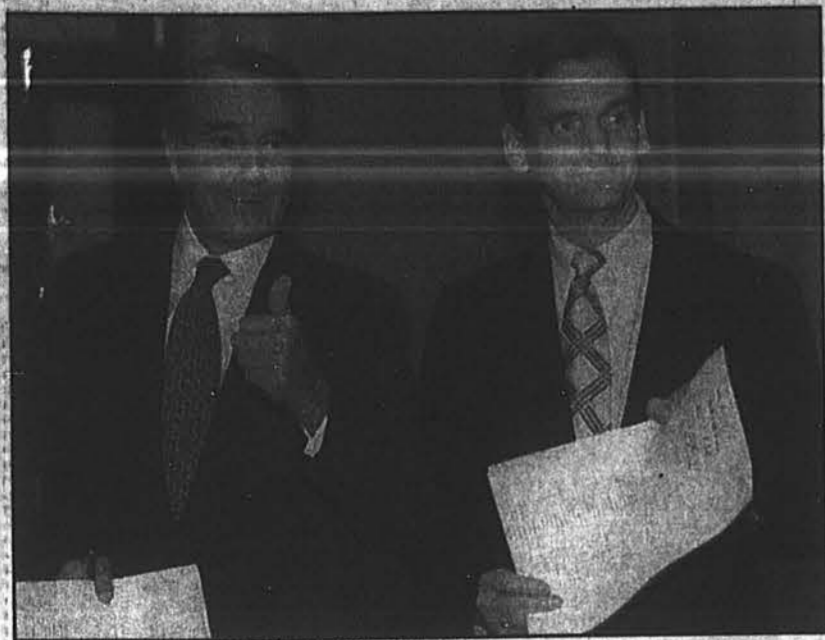


Salina, Kansas

May 27, 1995



The Associated Press
Thursday's passage of a balanced budget plan was a longtime goal for Sen. Bob Dole but not necessarily a good vote for his candidacy.

Budget far from perfect for Dole

But presidential hopeful wanted specific tax cuts

By JOHN KING
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — For Majority Leader Bob Dole, Senate passage of a balanced-budget outline after he'd spent years railing against deficit spending was a sweet victory. But for presidential candidate Dole it wasn't so simple.

Dole lamented that the budget blueprint passed by the Senate Thursday did not contain specific tax cuts. Because of that, he felt compelled to reaffirm his own commitment to cuts. "Make no mistake about it," he said. Dole had pledged as recently as last weekend that the Senate budget resolution would include

tax cuts, and thanks to some last-minute maneuvering, he can say that it does. Sort of. An amendment requires that money the government reaps from balancing its books go to tax relief.

But the Senate tax cuts, estimated at about \$170 billion, wouldn't come for some time, until it was clear the budget was on a path to being balanced by 2002. The House blueprint, on the other hand, includes \$354 billion in tax cuts.

That House plan is held in higher esteem by anti-tax groups active in GOP affairs, and by religious conservative organizations who favor its \$500 per child tax credit.

Republican voters appear to want it all. A recent survey by GOP pollster Linda DiVall found that 61 percent of Republicans endorsed this statement: The GOP Congress should dramatically shrink the size and role of the federal government, balance the budget through spending cuts and also lower tax rates.

"This isn't just a debate about whether Dole

is a tax-cutter, but whether he is a budget-cutter as well," said Grover Norquist, who heads Americans for Tax Reform.

There was an effort to bring the Senate package in line with the House tax cuts, an undertaking led by Texas Sen. Phil Gramm, a Dole rival for the 1996 GOP presidential nomination. Dole voted for the Gramm amendment, but Norquist and others who followed the maneuvering say he did so only after making sure it would fail. "So that is a bit of a black mark on Dole," Norquist said.

Not that there isn't time to erase it. In the short term, Dole is likely to face sharp criticism from Gramm, who voices disdain for Dole's penchant for dealmaking. Gramm suggests he himself is more closely aligned with the Republican revolution as espoused by House Speaker Newt Gingrich.

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Dole must withstand barbs from Gramm

"The fact that the House was able to get it through and the Senate wasn't able to muster the wherewithal plays into the question of whether Senator Dole falls under the status quo mantle or wants to follow through on the message of the last election," said DiVall, who is Gramm's campaign pollster. "It is an important issue and an important distinction between the two candidates."

Such barbs from Gramm would have been far more worrisome if

they were echoed by Gingrich and other House GOP leaders, a major concern in the Dole campaign as the budget debate played out. Gingrich once called Dole the "tax collector for the welfare state," a reminder that Dole has long been suspect to supply siders and other tax-cut advocates.

But Gingrich visited the Senate floor near the end of debate Thursday, and said he was confident the tax-cut gap could be bridged to the satisfaction of both chambers. Not that House Republicans concede they will have to give ground.

"We don't enter the conference with the presumption we have to go their way," House Majority

Leader Dick Armey said. "We enter with a resolve that we take certain pride in the quality of our product."

A sign of where Dole wants the debate to head will come when he appoints members of the Senate team that will try to reach agreement with the House.

One safe bet: Gramm will not be on it.

"My bet is that Dole will appoint a conference committee that will pass a family tax cut and a capital gains tax cut," said Norquist. "It will be a tax cut that Dole gets credit for rather than Gramm, if it doesn't work out that way then he has a problem."

8-A / THE TOPEKA CAPITAL JOURNAL

Thursday, June 1, 1995

Dole blasts Hollywood's promotion of 'deviancy'

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not glorify violence."

Criticizing Hollywood values was a favorite theme of former Vice President Dan Quayle and remains a priority of religious conservative leaders. Dole made no note of that but did applaud two Democratic senators who have raised similar complaints, Bill Bradley of New Jersey and Paul Simon of Illinois.

Such bipartisan condemnation, Dole said, should convince Hollywood executives "I am not objecting for some tiny group of zealots or an ideological fringe."

Back in April, Dole was criticized for attacking the movie "Priest" while acknowledging he had never viewed the film, which portrays sexual misconduct by Roman Catholic priests.

That episode did not make Dole reluctant about naming names as he

combined a \$750,000 fundraising visit to the state with a fresh, more pointed and detailed critique of Hollywood. This time, Dole advisers said the senator had listened to some of the material and read transcripts and summaries of the rest.

"I'm talking about a cultural business that makes money from 'music' extolling the pleasures of raping, torturing and mutilating women; from 'songs' about killing policemen and rejecting law. The mainstreaming of deviancy must come to an end, but it will only stop when the leaders of the entertainment industry recognize and shoulder their responsibility."

And Dole joined a chorus of recent criticism against Time Warner, specifically its records division, the distributor of Ice-T's "Cop Killer" and other songs with violent content. Dole said Time Warner was "on the leading edge of coarseness and violence" and framed this question to company executives: "Is this what you intended to accomplish with your careers? Must you debase our nation and threaten our children for the sake of corporate profits?"

Time Warner officials could not be reached Wednesday night for reaction. A phone message left Wednesday at the home of the company's spokesman, Edward Adler, wasn't immediately returned.

Dole saluted those in the industry who were committed to more family-oriented programming, and said the top money-making movies last year, including the "Lion King" and "Forrest Gump," were "the ones most friendly to the family." Given that, he scornfully rejected the notion that Hollywood was simply producing what the market demanded.

As he did in April, Dole said censorship had no place in the United States. But he warned, "Those who cultivate moral confusion for profit should understand this: We will name names and shame them as they deserve to be shamed. We will contest them for the heart and soul of every child, in every neighborhood in America."

A-18 Sunday, May 28, 1995
The Kansas City Star

Nation

Kassebaum, Dole at odds, but they're on same team

Continued from A-1

months, create some pressure on Bob Dole.

"She is an independent person." Meanwhile, Dole is striving with window-rattling proposals to convey a very different message to Republican primary activists across America: that he's a true-blue conservative worthy of ascending to the White House.

If there's a clash, Kassebaum said, she intends no misery.

"I certainly don't want to cause undue complications for Senator Dole, whom I greatly admire as a leader, as a presidential candidate whom I strongly support," Kassebaum said. "On the other hand, leadership isn't easy."

"If you think I've caused trouble," she said with a smile, "it's nothing like what he's had to face from the right wing of the party."

Kassebaum dislikes the political demands that push Dole to the right.

She's quick to contend, though, that he's not the same politician she described in 1987 for *The New York Times Magazine*.

She still rolls her eyes at the quote, which prompted an apology to Dole and a letter to the magazine asserting it was taken out of context. In it, Kassebaum said Dole lacked vision; he bent whichever way the political winds blew.

The adversity of his defeat in 1988 and his work as Senate leader since have changed Dole.

"While his agenda wouldn't always be mine, he has shaped an agenda," she said. "He has to have that persona of authority. I think he's gained a lot of that since 1988."

Both Dole and Kassebaum have always had a respectful, if careful, relationship. Today, despite their differences of opinion, they go out of their way to commend each other.

Dole says they focus on their own goals. When issues land on the Senate floor, they usually vote in tandem.

"Back in the majority, I think we probably work more closely," Dole said. "She's involved in a lot more issues that are going to be popping up, like welfare reform."

And she now is chairman of the Senate Labor and Human Relations Committee.

"She has a particularly responsible job now as chair of that labor committee," Dole said. "That's a tough committee, with a lot of pretty hard-rock, solid conservatives. I think she's done a good job."

"I have to keep everybody in the net, while she's got nine in that committee."

The nomination of Henry Foster as surgeon general recently landed in Kassebaum's committee, where Dole would have liked to see it bottled up.

In a recent meeting, Sen. Trent Lott, the Senate GOP whip from Mississippi, and Sen. Dan Coats of Indiana had urged Kassebaum to hold up the nomination. Kassebaum asked them for a defensible strategy. They couldn't provide one.

On Friday, even though Kassebaum voted in opposition, Foster's nomination was approved. Two Republicans — Sen. James Jeffords of



"I certainly don't want to cause undue complications for Senator Dole..."

—Nancy Kassebaum

Vermont and Sen. Bill Frist of Tennessee — sided with the seven Democrats on the committee to provide the 9-7 margin.

That sent the abortion-tinged battle to the Senate floor, where Dole doesn't want it to be. Now Dole, who has threatened not to let the full Senate vote on Foster's nomination, faces a dilemma.

He risks appearing obstructionist if he doesn't allow the full Senate to debate the nomination.

But if Foster wins confirmation, abortion opponents and many in the Christian right may sour on Dole's claim to be the strong leader needed for America in 1996.

Kassebaum seems unsullied by her fellow Kansan's discomfort. In fact, her straightforwardness and cool in handling the nomination earned her thanks from all 15 of her committee colleagues.

"You have done a superb job," Sen. Paul Wellstone, a Minnesota Democrat, said Friday.

From the opposite end of the political spectrum, Republican Sen. John Ashcroft of Missouri said the praise was more than normal senatorial courtesies.

"There are times when they say, 'My good friend,' which translated means, 'The guy I'd like to kill,'" Ashcroft joked. "But I think people realized this was a potentially volatile situation that was handled with thoroughness. It didn't become a circus. It didn't become a shouting match."

Beyond Foster, Kassebaum holds other views that directly contradict Dole's.

Earlier this year, he promised the National Rifle Association he would work to overturn the newly imposed ban on certain assault rifles. Kassebaum supports keeping the ban.

As a candidate, Dole has promised he'll deliver some kind of tax cut in this year's budget. Kassebaum, meanwhile, recently joined seven other Republicans sending a letter to Dole opposing any large tax cut. Without their support, Dole could not gather a majority

vote.

So the balanced budget outline the Senate passed last week only promised a tax cut on the back end. It will come if spending cuts turn up the \$170 billion in savings envisioned by the year 2002. Kassebaum voted for that deal.

Dole also has advocated eliminating four Cabinet departments: Housing, Education, Commerce and Energy.

Kassebaum has not flatly disagreed, but she's concerned that those departments don't send their work and employees to other agencies, an aide said.

Appealing to social conservatives, Dole wants to kill federal funding for public broadcasting and for the National Endowment for the Arts.

Taking the opposite tack, Kassebaum supports federal money for public broadcasting. And on Thursday night, she introduced a bill that would reauthorize the arts endowment.

Dole said he was unperturbed.

"The thing about Senator Kassebaum is, she analyzes these issues very carefully," Dole said. "She takes a position, that's it. Not that she can't be persuaded by facts, but I think that's certainly a plus to plant the flag out there and stick with it."

Once in awhile, though, Kassebaum regrets where she plants her flag, as in the nomination of Clarence Thomas for the Supreme Court.

Nominated in 1991 by President George Bush, Thomas became embroiled in Anita Hill's charges of sexual harassment during a nationally televised Senate confirmation battle. When it ended, Kassebaum voted for Thomas.

Friday, she said she now questions her vote, although Hill's charges were not the reason.

"It takes awhile for one to become seasoned on the bench," Kassebaum said. "But I guess I've been somewhat disappointed that I have not seen some of the opinions and some of the thought processes at work that I would like to, whether I agreed or disagreed."

Russell Getter, a political scientist at the University of Kansas, said Kassebaum's musings never seem to come back to haunt her.

Furthermore, her moderate views could ultimately help Dole. If Dole wins the presidential nomination, he must broaden his message to all voters.

"Nancy Kassebaum is probably steering to a middle of the road, big tent strategy, and in the long run that's probably Bob Dole's best bet," Getter said.

In the meantime, Getter has not detected any less admiration in Kansas for Kassebaum. Her third Senate term expires next year, and she has not said whether she will seek re-election.

"Even (with) her vote against Foster, I bet that doesn't hurt her one iota," Getter said. "She has more Teflon in Kansas than Ronald Reagan ever thought about having."

THE WICHITA EAGLE Thursday, June 1, 1995

Dole scolds Hollywood's 'depravity'

Film, TV and music moguls push trash for cash, he says

By William Claiborne

Los Angeles Times/Washington Post Service

LOS ANGELES — Senate Majority Leader Bob Dole, who is seeking the Republican presidential nomination, ventured into the heartland of the silver screen Wednesday and accused the moguls of the entertainment industry of producing "nightmares of depravity" that are debasing America's morals.

Addressing 350 GOP contributors at a Century City hotel practically in the shadow of a 20th Century Fox studio and the ABC Entertainment Center, the Kansan warned that popular music, films and television are "bombarding our children with destructive messages of casual violence and even more casual sex."

In remarks prepared for delivery Wednesday night, Dole accused Hollywood executives of trying to "hide behind the lofty language of free speech in order to profit from the debasing of America" while shaping children's perceptions of acceptable behavior and deadening their sensitivity to murder, rape, torture and mutilation.

In addressing morality, Dole singled out Time Warner Corp. for the "marketing of evil through commerce," particularly in the sale of violence-based rap music.

"Please do not answer that you are simply responding to the market. That is not true," Dole said, noting that last year's five top box-office hits included family-oriented films such as "The Lion King," "Forrest Gump," "The Santa Clause" and "The Flintstones."

Addressing himself to Time Warner executives, Dole asked: "Is this what you intended to accomplish with your careers? You have sold your souls, but must you debase our nation and threaten our children as well?"

He said Time Warner had become a "symbol of how much we have lost." In the 1930s, Dole recalled, its corporate predecessor, Warner Bros., made movies like "G-Men" that raised public confidence in the police; since then, Time Warner has produced music by rappers such as Ice-T, best known for his rap song "Cop Killer," the lyrics of which Dole said he could not bring



Dole

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