

Pg. 351-1995

# Is Dole the one?

## Front-runner tries to hold image in GOP's rightward turn to moderation

By LALLY WEYMOUTH  
The Washington Post

In a highly ideological era, as the Republican Party turns increasingly rightward, how does a veteran legislator such as Bob Dole — who has taken a wide variety of positions on many issues and struck lots of compromises during 3 1/2 decades in the Senate — win the hearts and minds of GOP voters?

Dole, dressed casually, looking relaxed as he sits in his Senate office, denies he is moved to the right. "I've always been a mainstream conservative," he contends. The differences between him and Sen. Phil Gramm and Rep. Newt Gingrich are more stylistic than substantive, Dole says: Gramm is more "in-your-face and ... Newt's got a different style. ... Maybe it's generational."

But, says Dole — placing the emphasis on experience, "I know where the bottom line is: You've got to get things done, and sometimes ... you've got to reach across the aisle."

What would be Dole's chief goal as president? Not surprisingly, he says it would be to rein in the federal government. "The government does a lot of good things, but it is too big, too intrusive. We need to downsize it. I've listed four departments we could live without — commerce, housing and urban development, energy and education."

As for foreign policy, "I worry about our prestige and how we're viewed in the world; there is no clear policy." The majority leader is critical of the Clinton administration for abdicating its leadership role and "blowing" so much money on Haiti and Somalia — operations Dole clearly doesn't believe pertained to U.S. national interests. He is especially unhappy with the Clintonites' willingness to rely so heavily on the United Nations. Dole notes that he is fighting the president's proposed cuts in the defense budget — and that they are "double what candidate

Clinton said he would do."

Does Dole worry about isolationist tendencies in his own party? "We need to understand we have an international role to play," he said. "We are the leaders of the Free World."

Bosnia, he argues, is a case in point. And since "foreign policy isn't on the White House radar screen very often," Congress has been forced to play a more central role. Dole believes "we have a stake in seeing that an independent nation can defend itself." Thus, his seeming hawkishness on Bosnia. Dole says the recent Croatian military offensive proves that lifting the arms embargo in Bosnia is the correct policy — that armed, the Bosnians will "make a pretty good showing." And a unilateral lifting of the arms ban, Dole contends, would give the French and British what they are looking for: a face-saving way to pull out their troops. He was asked whether lifting the arms embargo would lead to using U.S. troops to facilitate the U.N. withdrawal. "We have an obligation," Dole replied.

Turning to Israel, Dole speaks of the bill he introduced to move the U.S. Embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem, a move he opposed only a few years ago. It was also just a few years ago — 1990 — that he called for a 5

percent cut in foreign aid to Israel. Dole says he requested the reduction at the request of President Bush's State Department: "I got to carry the water." But he still thinks that sooner or later "we've got to take a look" at aid figures.

Has he had a change of heart toward Israel? Dole's response is informed by politics: "I've got a lot of support in the Jewish community. I think I'm viewed as a reliable supporter." But, says Dole, "I'm my own person and will be." He adds, "This doesn't mean we (the United States) and Israel won't have strong ties."

On the domestic front, Dole has taken the pledge not to raise taxes, although he refused to do so four years ago. Why the change? "I've been a little ahead of the curve in my view — consistently conservative but not right-wing." He continues, "I was chair of the Finance Committee when we had the biggest tax cut under President Reagan."

Regarding his seeming switch from friend to foe in the affirmative action

realm, Dole says that affirmative action hasn't done anything for the average black person. He argues that it runs counter to the fundamental belief in this country — that you ought to be able to succeed on the basis of your ability, not because of your race or gender. As president, however, he wouldn't repeal the executive order that mandates the implementation of affirmative action policies in all areas of federal government.

What about abortion? Some say that it is impossible to win the Republican nomination without embracing the pro-life stance and that doing so makes it impossible to win the general election. Dole says, "I've been right-to-life, but I've been endorsed by a lot of pro-choice women." The issue is important but, he seems to say, shouldn't dominate the Republican Party.

From Dole's standpoint, Clinton has been a missing president since the congressional elections. "He's been on vacation from Congress for

the last six months. I don't know if he contacts Democrats. He rarely contacts the (GOP) leadership." Clinton spends his time following the advice of his "new guru," Dick Morris, according to Dole. But voters, Dole warns, want results: "They don't like the head-butting. How can we have bipartisanship if the president just talks it?"

The Salina Journal | Saturday, August 26, 1995

# Dole predicts he's destined for wins

By The Boston Globe  
NASHUA, N.H. — Attempting to brush aside his disappointing performance in last week's Iowa straw poll, Sen. Bob Dole Friday received the endorsement of U.S. Rep. Charles Bass and boldly predicted he would win the Iowa caucuses and the New Hampshire primary.



Dole

"We're going to win them both," Dole said to more than 100 supporters crowded into a hotel meeting room.

Noting that several states have moved their presidential nominating primaries to earlier dates next year, Dole added: "This could be all over by the end of March. That's our plan."

But Dole's professed confidence ran counter to a new Iowa Project

survey that shows his support has slipped from 52 percent of those likely to attend the caucuses to 36 percent. The survey, with a margin of error of plus or minus 5.6 points, was taken after Dole tied the straw vote with Texas Sen. Phil Gramm.

"He came out with a head of steam, we'll come out with a head of steam," Dole quipped, looking ahead to the February caucuses.

Bass, in throwing his support to Dole, underscored the Senate majority leader's decades-long tenure in Congress: "Nobody else has the wisdom, the expertise and the experience to take over this country at a time when we really need leadership."

Bass's long-anticipated endorsement, delivered at the outset of an eight-day working vacation for Dole, marked the third one for the Kansas senator from New Hampshire's four lawmakers in Congress, all Republicans.

SUNDAY ■ AUGUST 27, 1995 ■ THE HAYS DAILY NEWS ■ A11

# Dole's return of money from gay GOP group angers them

CINCINNATI (AP) — A Washington-based organization of gay Republicans is upset that Sen. Bob Dole has decided to return its campaign contribution.

Dole's presidential campaign said Friday it is giving back a \$1,000 contribution from the Log Cabin Republicans because Dole disagrees with their views.

Nelson Warfield, a campaign spokesman for the Kansas Republican, said the \$1,000 was mailed on

Thursday back to the group. "It's our policy to decline contributions from political groups that have an agenda that is not in line with Senator Dole's position on the issues," Warfield said. "We've gotten over 200,000 checks, and this one clearly slipped through the cracks."

Warfield said Dole, an Army veteran who served in World War II, opposes lifting the ban on allowing gays to

serve in the military. That runs counter to the Log Cabin Republicans' position, and is one example of why Dole is returning the money, Warfield said.

"We are extremely disappointed over this incident," said Rich Tafel, executive director of the group, which is meeting this weekend in Cincinnati.

"We were encouraged by the Dole campaign for months to support them financially, and any indication that they were

unaware of our involvement is dishonest."

Deb Price, a journalist whose column about lesbian and gay issues appears in *The Detroit News* and other newspapers, found the June 19 contribution in Federal Election Commission reports. In a column prepared for Saturday, she said Dole's campaign decided to give the money back two days after learning she would be writing about the contribution.

# Dole's lead shrinks in Time-CNN poll

NEW YORK (AP) — Presidential candidate Bob Dole's support among potential Republican voters has slipped, according to a poll from CNN and Time.

In choosing among the Republican candidates, 35 percent support Dole, the Senate majority leader from Kansas; 9 percent back Sen. Phil Gramm of Texas and 8 percent favor commentator Pat Buchanan. A Time-CNN poll a month ago had Dole at 42 percent, Buchanan 11 percent, Gramm 10 percent. The undecided

shot up from 16 percent to 25 percent.

The poll released Friday found that Sen. Bill Bradley, a New Jersey Democrat who said last week that he was considering an independent candidacy, gets a favorable rating from 16 percent of the 800 adults polled, while 71 percent are not familiar enough with him to say.

In a three-way matchup, 37 percent would support President Clinton, 34 percent Dole and 16 percent Bradley if the election were held today.

A-10 Sunday, August 27, 1995  
The Kansas City Star

# Donation returned to gay Republicans

Dole campaign says senator disagrees with viewpoint of the group.

The Associated Press

CINCINNATI — A Washington-based organization of gay Republicans is upset that Sen. Bob Dole of Kansas has decided to return its campaign contribution.

Dole's presidential campaign said Friday it was giving back a \$1,000 contribution from the Log Cabin Republicans because Dole disagrees with the group's views.

Nelson Warfield, a campaign spokesman for the Kansas Republican, said the \$1,000 was sent by mail on Thursday to the group, which claims 10,000 members among 43 chapters in 35 states.

"It's our policy to decline contributions from political groups that have an agenda that is not in line with Senator Dole's position on the issues," Warfield said. "We've

gotten over 200,000 checks, and this one clearly slipped through the cracks."

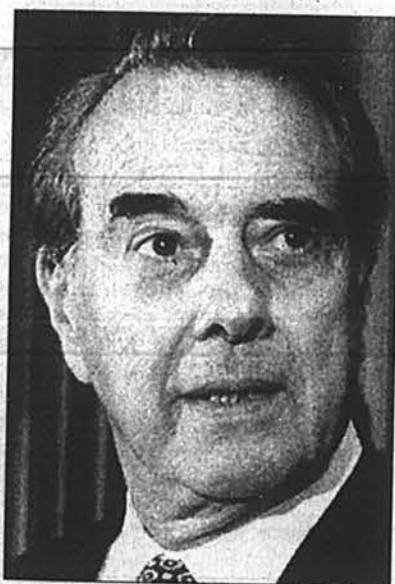
Warfield said Dole, an Army veteran who served in World War II, opposes lifting the ban on gays in the military. This runs counter to the Log Cabin Republicans' position and is one example of why Dole is returning the money, Warfield said.

The group immediately criticized the senator.

"We are extremely disappointed over this incident," said Rich Tafel, executive director of the group, which is meeting this weekend in Cincinnati.

"We were encouraged by the Dole campaign for months to support them financially, and any indication that they were unaware of our involvement is dishonest."

Tafel, whose organization refused to endorse President George Bush for re-election in 1992, said the group had not endorsed any GOP candidate this year and en-



Sen. Bob Dole

... sends back \$1,000

couraged its members to support any candidate they choose.

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The Salina Journal | Sunday, August 27, 1995

# Dole campaign scrambles to cut ties with gay group

By The New York Times  
WASHINGTON — Scrambling to enhance relations with conservatives, Sen. Bob Dole's presidential campaign said Saturday that it was returning \$1,000 from a gay Republican group.

The campaign said it had accepted the June donation by mistake, and would never have taken money from an organization that supports positions Dole opposes, like allowing homosexuals in the military.



Dole

But correspondence made available Saturday by Richard Tafel, the president of Log Cabin Republicans, said he had dealings with several senior Dole campaign officials who had solicited his organization.

Tafel produced a letter dated May 24 that he received from John Moran, Dole's finance director.

"Per our discussion," Moran wrote, "I am attaching a list of upcoming Dole for president fundraising events. Senator Dole and I would appreciate any assistance you could give us in turning out your members at each event. I am looking forward to working with you."