


August 26, 1992

MEMORANDUM TO THE LEADER

FROM: JOHN DIAMANTAKIOU 

SUBJECT: POLITICAL BRIEFINGS

Below is an outline of your briefing materials for trip #2.

Enclosed are the following briefings for your perusal:

1. Campaign briefing:
  - overview of race
  - biographical materials
  - bills introduced (Coats, Grassley, Nussle)
2. National Republican Senatorial Briefing
3. National Republican Congressional Committee Briefings on competitive congressional races
4. Governor's race brief (IN, ND)
5. Redistricting map/City stop
6. Republican National Committee Briefing
7. State Statistical Summary
8. State Committee/DFP supporter contact list
9. Clips (courtesy of the campaigns)

Thank you.

4:30 p.m.  
Roundtable  
Discussion  
with N.D.  
Ag leadership

## MEMORANDUM

TO: Dave Spears  
FROM: Bob Oakley  
RE: August 28 Ag. meeting attendees  
DATE: August 25, 1992

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### CONFIRMED

National Sunflower Association  
North Dakota Sunflower Association  
N.D. Grain Growers Association  
N.D. Stockman's Association  
N.D. Farm Bureau  
N.D. Farmer's Union  
U.S. Durum Growers Association  
Red River Valley Potato Grower's Association  
Red River Valley Sugarbeet Growers Association

### PENDING

N.D. Corn Growers Association  
N.D. Dry Edible Bean Seed Growers Association  
Milk Producers Association of N.D.

# DRAFT

## Revitalizing American Agriculture Focusing Our Resources To Better Feed The World Steve Sydness -- U.S. Senate Candidate

Our forefathers came to the Dakota prairie for its land, a land rich in soil and promise. Through the sweat of their brow and a little luck they were able to feed themselves and eventually the world. Along the way, however, the world became a more complicated place. No longer could a farmer work his crop through the summer, or nurture his cattle, then be assured of a fair profit for his labors.

In order to help the farmer when the unexpected happened, the Federal government established a safety net. Today, though, this safety net has been transformed into a tangled web of red tape, bureaucracy and endless forms.

As Senator, I want to return our agriculture programs to the safety net concept. First and foremost, I will actively seek a seat on the Senate Committee on Agriculture. It would be foolish for a member of the North Dakota congressional delegation to not seek and retain a seat on the one committee that most impacts our farm and agricultural communities.

I will ensure that, when possible, farm benefits will be targeted to family-size farmers, not to those who don't need them. The family farmers are the people who have ties to the small, rural communities. They are the ones who invest in these towns, and without the family farmers, the small towns' chances for a bright future is dimmed.

Another priority of mine is to ensure that we stop using agriculture as a weapon. It is time for the politicians in Washington to learn that embargoes hurt only two groups: the poor of the nation at which they are directed, and American farmers. These embargoes are destined to fail because totalitarian governments will always put the interests of themselves and their military before the innocent people of their countries. It took our farmers many years to recover from President Carter's grain embargo. As Senator, I will not let that happen again.

I have identified four main components which I view as vital to an effective and efficient agriculture program. First is **flexibility**. North Dakota's farmers have been hamstrung by the burden of government over-regulation. Somewhere between the safety net concept and the current farm program, Washington bureaucrats have decided they know agriculture better than our farmers. Rigid regulation is the result, and one of the most fundamental problems with our current agriculture policy. No where else does the government take such a patronizing attitude towards its citizens.



For example, when the Small Business Administration helps a grocer, it doesn't tell the owner what to buy, in what quantities and with what to stock the shelves. Yet, when the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) helps a small family farmer, it tells him what to plant, how much to plant and where to plant it.

In keeping with the safety net concept, I will encourage:

o A more efficient crop insurance program:

We should let the farmers do their farming and then create a crop insurance program that will act as the safety net. The current system of crop insurance and disaster payments does not make sense. Too often a farmer buys insurance, only to see disaster payments made available later. All we ask the government to do is to use one or the other.

The federal government needs to get out of the way, and let the farmer do what the farmer does best: feed the world.

o Opening of CRP and ACR land:

Another way to increase flexibility and cure a nagging problem in our rural communities is to expedite the opening of CRP and ACR land for haying and grazing and direct those benefits to livestock producers.

o Implementation of the Targeted Option Payment Program:

By implementing the TOP program for the 1992 crop year, will give producers more flexibility in responding to market forces.

Second, is **red tape**. Government micro-management of the family farm has produced a complicated maze of forms, regulations and general confusion. It costs the government money, the farmer money and the consumer money. We need to simplify this confusing and ultimately expensive farm program.

For example, the 15 feet of paper I have here represents the extent of the farm handbooks put out by the ASCS. There are 179 handbooks that average 250 words a piece, that means that there is 44,750 pages of red tape in our farm program.

In searching for that information, one of my staff members had to make six separate calls, was given two disconnected numbers and was transferred to three different places before getting the facts on the extent of the paperwork out there. Clearly, a team of experts needs to cut through the bureaucracy of the United States Department of Agriculture.

I will:

o Support an efficiency audit:

Conducted by a coalition of farmers, agribusiness leaders and USDA specialists, this audit would look for ways to make our agriculture program more responsive to the needs of the farmer.

o Oppose a class-based wheat subsidy program:

I oppose this program because it will increase red tape, increase bureaucracy, and hurt North Dakota's wheat farmers.

Third, **property rights**. I support efforts for conservation of our precious resources, but we need to make certain our conservation and environmental efforts are reasonable and responsible for all parties involved. Two proposals that have come under particular scrutiny, and in some cases abuse, are the sod/swampbuster and wetlands programs.

I will work to reform:

o Sod/swampbuster:

This program changed the balance of property rights so that the landowner is compelled to shoulder the financial responsibility without "just compensation." I will fight to change this.

o Wetlands:

This program has caused confusion over the question of "what is a wetland?". There are instances where environmentally sensitive areas must be protected. However, we need to make sure that a common sense approach prevails in this decision-making process. I will fight to ensure that the constitutional rights of the landowner are protected, and that "due process and just compensation" are applied, as specified by the fifth amendment of the U.S. Constitution. That is why I worked to have a wetlands plank put into the 1992 Republican platform.

Finally, we have to address the issue of the **price** our farmer receives for his commodities.

Areas of concern include:

o Credit guarantees and humanitarian assistance:

I will support efforts to expand both credit guarantees and humanitarian assistance. If McDonald's and Pepsi-cola can get a crack at the markets of eastern Europe, then so should our farmers. The former Soviet Union and other parts of the world are facing difficult times, but I believe that is all the more reason to help them, and at the same time help our own farmers.

o Food and land reserves:

These are important aspects of our overall farm policy. They help to stabilize the cyclical swings of world farm prices, as well as help needy parts of the world. I will work to see that American farmers are not shouldering more than their share of the burden for land and food reserves. Increasingly the benefits our reserves flow to major importers such as Japan and major producers such as Canada and Australia. I will work for a cooperative agreement on land and food reserves so that all exporting nations reduce plantings when stocks are excessive due to good weather and all developed nations share in the cost of carrying food reserves.



o Farmer Owned Reserve:

I will work to increase the reserve to 450 million bushels of wheat and for bonuses and/or incentives for entry that enables the Reserve to reach that level.

o Food Security Wheat Reserve:

Continuing famine and strife in the world will require the use of this reserve. I will urge the Dept. of Agriculture to keep the reserve stocked, but not in a way which will hurt the competitive relationships of local country elevators.

o U.S.-Canadian free trade agreement:

I urge the President to investigate the new Canadian farm program, the market distortions of the European Community (EC) durum program, and the import penetration of the durum market. I will ask the President to consider imposing Section 22 quotas on imports of durum and pasta. North Dakotan and Canadian prairie farmers produce the same agricultural commodities, primarily premium wheats, malting and feed barley and cattle. Since the signing of the Free Trade Agreement, U.S. farm program benefits have been reduced substantially while the Canadians have just increased their farm program benefits. The EC has increased durum production nearly 50 percent in the 1980s due to extremely high support prices (over \$10 per bushel!). As a consequence, EC durum has displaced U.S. and Canadian markets.

o GATT and NAFTA:

A GATT agreement is likely to leave strong, artificial (government) incentives for continued expansion of European agriculture even as U.S. and North Dakota farmers go bankrupt due to prices driven below the cost of production by over-production in the EC. Unless a GATT agreement can eliminate the majority of trade distorting effects of European and Japanese subsidies, the U.S. should retain Section 22 authority.

I support in principal the NAFTA agreement announced by the Bush Administration. However, I am concerned about its impact on North Dakota agriculture, particularly our sugarbeet farmers. I will reserve judgement on NAFTA until the Administration reveals it in detail so that I may fully assess its impact on our state.

o Target prices and deficiency payments:

I will fight for fair and equitable target prices and deficiency payments. The rising costs of production and the low prices have put grain and dairy farmers in serious financial trouble. I will work to increase target prices and deficiency payments to reflect these increasing costs.

o Dairy:

I will work with the Dept. of Agriculture and the dairy industry to develop a fair supply-management program, one which does not include a dairy herd buyout

program. I will urge the USDA to use dairy products in foreign food assistance programs and to use EEP to move dairy products.

Agriculture drives the economy of North Dakota and heavily impacts the economy of America. I have a favorite saying, "There are few problems in North Dakota which \$5 wheat can not fix." If elected, I will work for \$5 wheat from my seat on the Committee on Agriculture by correcting the current market distortions that come from government interventions. That means correcting not only our own government's distortions, but making sure that other nations play by the same rules. I am confident that the new direction I have laid out will benefit the farmer, North Dakota and the world.

August, 1992



08. 25. 92 01:50PM \*MINORITY AG CMTE

# Wetlands - AG PLATFORM

2064 We value our Nation's real wetlands habitat and the diversity of our  
2065 native animal and plant life. We oppose, however, bureaucratic harassment of  
2066 farm, ranch and timber families under statutes regarding endangered species  
2067 and wetlands. When actions are required to protect an endangered species,  
2068 we recognize that jobs can be lost, communities displaced, and economic  
2069 progress for all denied. Accordingly, prior to the implementation of a  
2070 recovery plan for a species declared to be endangered, we will require the  
2071 Congress to affirm the priority of the species on the endangered list and the  
2072 specific measures to be taken in any recovery plan. These acts should not  
2073 rest with the rubber stamp of a bureaucrat.

2074  
2075 With regard to wetlands, following our principle that environmental  
2076 protection be reasonable, land that is not truly wet should not be classified as  
2077 a wetland. Protection of environmentally sensitive wetlands must not come  
2078 at the price of disparaging landowners' property rights. Thus, we endorse, as  
2079 President Bush has done, legislation to discourage government activities that  
2080 ignore property rights. We also find intolerable the use of taxpayer funds,  
2081 through the Legal Services Corporation, to attack the agricultural  
2082 community.

2083  
2084 **Power for Progress.** Energy sustains life as we know it: our standard of  
2085 living, the prospect for economic growth, the way our children will live in  
2086 the century ahead. Republican energy policy, now as in the past, reflects the  
2087 commonsense aspirations of the American people.

2088  
2089 Our goals address our fundamental needs: an energy supply, available  
2090 to all, that remains reasonably priced, secure, and clean, produced by strong  
2091 energy industries on which the country can rely, operating in an  
2092 environmentally responsible manner, and produced from domestically  
2093 available energy resources to the maximum extent practicable.

2094  
2095 Anyone older than a teenager can remember the energy upheavals of  
2096 the bad old days, when political games threw the nation into a tailspin.  
2097 Stranded in gasoline lines, shocked by home heating bills, shutting down  
2098 factory operations, America's motorists, homeowners, and workers rightly



4:30 p m  
N.D.  
Leadership  
Discussion

STEVE SYDNESS  
AG. ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION

ATTACHED IS A LIST OF THOSE ATTENDING. MOST OF THE MAJOR AG. GROUPS WILL BE REPRESENTED. THERE WILL BE APPROX. 15 GROUPS IN TOTAL. THE FORMAT WILL BE A CLOSED DOOR ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION WITH NO PRESS.

ALSO ATTACHED IS A COPY OF STEVE'S AG. STATEMENT. IT IS IN DRAFT FORM AND NOT YET MEANT FOR RELEASE.

ACCORDING TO STEVE SYDNESS'S CAMPAIGN STAFF THE KEY ISSUES ARE:

- NAFTA

THE SUGAR BEET PRODUCERS ARE TERRIFIED THAT CUBAN SUGAR WILL COME ACROSS THE BORDER THROUGH MEXICO. THEY QUESTION THE ENFORCEMENT PROVISIONS OF THE NAFTA AGREEMENT.

- DURUM WHEAT

PRODUCERS OF DURUM WHEAT ARE UPSET ABOUT CANADIAN WHEAT CROSSING THE BORDER UNDER A RAIL SUBSIDY BY THE CANADIAN GOVERNMENT.

- WETLANDS

PRIVATE PROPERTY ISSUE - WHAT IS A WETLAND?? STEVE SYDNESS WORKED HARD TO GET A WETLANDS PLANK PUT IN THE REPUBLICAN PLATFORM. (ATTACHED)

BOTTOM LINE - NEED FOR COMMON SENSE. FARMERS ARE THE PIONEER ENVIRONMENTALISTS.

## NORTH DAKOTA STOP

### **Fargo**

North Dakota has one at-large seat represented by Byron Dorgan (D), who is retiring to run for Senator Conrad's seat.

North Dakota is the only state with fewer people now than in 1930. As farmland values dropped during the 1980s, small farms began disappearing from the map.

Much of North Dakota's population exodus has occurred from the western portion of the state. Too dry for a good wheat crop, the west produces livestock, and it developed an energy industry that was hard hit in the 1980s by the slide in oil prices. As oil prices diminished, population moved east; the state's largest city, Fargo grew by 21% in the 80s, while the other major Red River Valley city, Grand Forks, posted a moderate gain.

The combination of large medical facilities, the two major state universities and normally prosperous farmers makes eastern North Dakota Republican in most elections.

The 1980s were tough for the state GOP. In 1981, Republicans vastly outnumbered Democrats in the state Legislature; there were only 10 Democrats in the 50 member Senate. But in 1986, Democrats won control of the state Senate for the first time in history, and maintained that hold through 1990. Republicans continue to hold a majority in the state House, but the governorship, the House seat and the two Senate seats are all in Democratic hands.

Although the politics of North Dakota have traditionally been the politics of wheat, the state's farm community is more diverse than its political rhetoric would imply. The Red River, which marks the state's eastern border with Minnesota, flows through the state's most prosperous agricultural area, a rich growing region that produces sugar beets and potatoes.

President Bush won with 56% of the vote in 1988.



### SENATOR DOLE'S RECORD ON THE 1989 DISASTER ACT

Any disparities cast upon Senator Dole's record concerning passage of federal disaster assistance for crop losses in 1989 ignores his leadership on that very subject. Senator Dole was the one who introduced legislation in the Senate, only to have it stonewalled and modified by Democrats serving on the Senate Agriculture Committee.

It is instructive to look back at the situation facing Kansas wheat producers in both 1988 and 1989. Producers of winter wheat in Kansas did not gain any appreciable benefits from the 1988 bill, as the 1988 crop was harvested prior to the onset of the drought. That dry spell, however, proved disastrous for the 1989 crop that farmers were attempting to plant in bone-dry fields in the fall of 1988.

While producers of fall-harvested crops received considerable assistance for their 1988 loss, winter wheat producers who suffered the same or even more extensive damage from the same drought period were ineligible for assistance due to the fact that their crop is planted in the fall for harvest in the following year.

Recognizing that, Senator Dole attempted to move forward with disaster legislation in 1989 that provided for winter wheat losses, as well as other forms of assistance directed toward livestock producers and rural businesses. His efforts to direct that assistance to perhaps the hardest hit area in the country were stymied, however, by Members who insisted upon opening up assistance to all crops -- program and non-program alike. While he worked with other Members in amending his proposal to include other program crops and soybeans, Democratic Members of the Agriculture Committee nevertheless cast a party-line vote in committee to open up assistance to all commodities. The efforts of Chairman Leahy and Senator Kent Conrad slashed benefits to program crop producers in Kansas, Vermont and North Dakota in order to provide equal coverage for commodities that are not subjected to the sacrifices of acreage reduction programs, conservation compliance, and other bureaucratic program compliance requirements.

After the July 25 Democratic coup in committee, Senator Dole vowed to fight on behalf of wheat and other program crop producers. But recognizing where the votes of the partisan majority stood, he took the floor on the very next day offering to work with the majority on final passage of a bill. Significant concessions were made to placate their objections, and the disaster assistance legislation that originated due to the efforts of Senator Dole passed the Senate on August 4.

Although Senator Conrad and his Democratic colleagues were successful in reducing benefits to their hard-hit constituencies in North Dakota and elsewhere, Senator Dole represented them to the end until compromise was inevitable.



08/27/92

12:19

SYDNESS FOR SENATE

002  
002

STEVE  
SYDNESS

Cal  
**Ludeman**  
— *for Congress* —

Paid for by Ludeman for Congress Committee

CONTACT: MARK MADDOX  
TONY CLARK  
(701) 234-0205

**SYDNESS TO COLLECT MONEY FOR HURRICANE  
VICTIMS DURING SENATOR DOLE VISIT**

(Fargo) -- U.S. Senate candidate Steve Sydness today announced he will be collecting donations for the American Red Cross's Hurricane Andrew relief efforts during a dinner/rally with Senator Bob Dole on Friday, August 28, at the Fargo Holiday Inn, starting at 5:30pm. Senator Dole's wife, Elizabeth Dole, is president of the American Red Cross.

Said Sydness, "While watching on television the devastation which Hurricane Andrew inflicted on Florida and Louisiana, I wondered if there was anything we could do here in North Dakota to help. The Red Cross does such a great job of disaster relief, and they have been called on so many times this year, that I felt collecting donations for them was a good idea."

"As I'm sure many people know, Elizabeth Dole, Senator Dole's wife, is the head of the American Red Cross. I'm hoping with Mr. Dole here we can show him North Dakota's generosity and concern for others," Sydness added.

Persons attending the event with Senator Dole are encouraged to bring a check payable to the MINN-KOTA Red Cross, or cash. Donation canisters will be available at the event.

Senator Dole will be in Fargo on Friday, August 28, for a dinner/rally for Steve Sydness at the Holiday Inn, with a reception at 5:30 p.m. and dinner at 6:30. Persons interested in attending and/or donating to the Red Cross may call 234-0205.

-XXX-

2702 First Avenue North  
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Fargo, North Dakota 58106  
Phone 701-234-0205 • Fax 701-234-0214

Paid For By Sydness For Senate Page 12 of 41



## NORTH DAKOTA AG BRIEFING POINTS

NORTH DAKOTA IS PULLING OUT OF ALMOST A FIVE YEAR DROUGHT THIS YEAR. HAVE RECEIVED VERY PLENTIFUL RAINFALL THROUGHOUT THE ENTIRE STATE. PASTURES ARE REBOUNDED SLOWLY DUE TO THE LOUSY CONDITIONS THAT THEY ARE IN, BUT, WATER TABLES ARE UP AND THE RED RIVER VALLEY IS A GARDEN SPOT.

### KEY CONCERNS:

- (1) PRICES, AGAIN. A BUMPER PREDICTION FOR THEIR SPRING WHEAT CROP HAS HURT WHEAT PRICES AND HAVE ALSO BEEN DRAWN DOWN BY THE WEAK CORN MARKET.
- (2) CANADIAN TRADE - CONCERN ABOUT WHEAT BEING IMPORTED FROM CANADA AND POSSIBLY BEING RE-EXPORTED UNDER THE EEP. CONRAD, NAWG, AND KAWG HAVE ALL BEEN PUSHING A PROPOSAL TO REQUIRE "END-USE" CERTIFICATES TO KEEP IMPORTED WHEAT IDENTITY PRESERVED. SUCH A PROPOSAL LIKELY PLAYS VERY WELL IN NORTH DAKOTA, BUT, IT IS NOT A GOOD IDEA.
- (3) CONRAD - HAS ALSO BEEN PUSHING A BEGINNING FARMER CREDIT BILL, WHICH MAY HAVE A CONSTITUENCY IN THE AREA.
- (4) NORTH DAKOTA FARMERS ARE NOT LIKELY TO BE TOO EXCITED ABOUT THE NAFTA. A POPULIST BUNCH, THEY ARE ON THE FRONT LINE OF MOST GRAIN THAT WE IMPORT AND WOULD PROBABLY LIKE TO SEE GREATER BARRIERS ESTABLISHED, INSTEAD.

### KEY ISSUE:

WETLANDS - WETLANDS PROTECTION IS RAPIDLY BECOMING A VERY CONTROVERSIAL ISSUE. THE DEFINITION OF WETLANDS AND WETLANDS DETERMINATIONS ARE CRUCIAL ISSUES. THE WETLANDS ISSUE MAY BE THE TOP ISSUE. ANOTHER ISSUE IS THE DELINEATION MANUAL THAT AGENCIES MUST FOLLOW IN ADMINISTERING WETLAND LAWS. A PROPOSED REVISION TO THE MANUAL WOULD EXEMPT PRAIRIE POTHOLEES FROM A REWRITE AND PLACE PRAIRIE POTHOLEES UNDER A SEPARATE AND STRICTER DEFINITION OF WETLANDS.

# STEVE SYDNESS

United States Senate

August 25, 1992

## MEMORANDUM

TO: Honorable Robert Dole  
Senate Minority Leader

FROM: Mark Maddox *MM*  
Sydness for Senate

RE: Background for Sydness Campaign Visit on August 28, 1992

The Sydness campaign has accomplished its summer goals. Steve has laid down its issue base on jobs, health care, congressional reform, and energy over the summer, and he will be releasing his defense and agriculture positions before labor day.

However, the reality of this campaign is that change will be the issue. Steve has touched North Dakota's populist spirit with his recent statewide tour of North Dakota's cities featuring a broom and his grandmother's saying, "a new broom sweeps clean." Steve received considerable coverage during the original tour and with his use of the broom during his speech at the national convention.

In the fall, the campaign's focus will be on Dorgan's role as a member of the House leadership, his decision to abandon the agriculture committee for the Ways & Means committee, and his bouncing 98 checks to the House bank. After changing committees, Dorgan proceeded to vote against the 1985 and 1990 farm bills because they were not good enough for North Dakota. The question which begs to be answered is whether Dorgan could have gotten a good bill had he stayed on the ag committee.

## POLLING

The campaign has not polled since mid-May. Briefly, the numbers showed Dorgan's ballot was being driven by strong name ID, but was at historical lows to for him. Of interest was the fact that Dorgan's committed vote was only at 30 percent. The survey also showed that among those who were aware of the number of checks Dorgan had bounced, the ballot moved away from Dorgan by 28 percent. Another key issue cutting against Dorgan was the fact Congress had exempted itself from the laws it had passed, such as civil rights, minimum wage, and special prosecutor requirements. I have attached a survey analysis written by our pollster, Lance Tarrance & Associates to give you more detail.

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Phone 701-234-0205 • Fax 701-234-0214

Paid For By Sydness For Senate Committee



### STEVE SYDNESS POSITIVES

Positive reasons to vote for Steve Sydness include:

- o He is a fifth generation North Dakotan. He shares the people of North Dakota's values and concerns.
- o Steve Sydness understands how to create jobs. At Great Plains Software where he was part of a team that helped one of North Dakota's own triple its number of employees. Unlike Byron Dorgan, Steve Sydness knows what it's like to sign the front of a paycheck.
- o Steve Sydness understands that small business is the heart and soul of North Dakota's economy. He, like 4500 other North Dakota businessmen and women, is a member of the National Federation of Independent Businesses. Steve Sydness understands that small business is the heart and soul of the small town. Unlike his opponent who votes against small business two out of three times, Steve Sydness will support small business.
- o Steve Sydness wants to create rural enterprise zones that will get our small towns moving and keep the young people from moving away from North Dakota. Steve has been talking about rural enterprise zones since 1988, unlike his Johnny come lately opponent who just discovered them last year.
- o Steve Sydness is committed to balancing the budget. He supports an amendment to balance the budget and he supports a line item veto.
- o Steve Sydness can help farmers. He, working with Senator Nickles, was very instrumental in including a plank in the Republican platform calling for more flexibility in wetlands regulations and respect for property rights.
- o Steve Sydness wants to get government to stop micro-managing the family farm. Today, ASCS regulations total 44,000 pages. That is too many. We need to get government off of our backs.

In addition, I have attached copies of recent newspaper articles; Steve's convention speech; and a key issue paper. I hope this will adequately prepare you for your visit to Fargo.

## KEY ISSUES

### SYDNESS FOR SENATE CAMPAIGN

AUGUST 28, 1992

o The North American Free Trade Agreement is a major issue in North Dakota among sugar beet growers. The sugar beet grower's concern is that Mexico will flood the American markets by exporting sugar that has been funnelled through Mexico from a third country. This is the major issue to this group and their level of panic cannot be underestimated.

**SYDNESS RESPONSE:** Steve is withholding final judgement of NAFTA until he sees its enforcement provisions. However, as we have discovered with the Durham wheat case with Canada, hidden subsidies such as subsidized rail shipping must be included in the enforcement provisions.

o Currently a joint U.S. Canadian panel is hearing a complaint that Canada violated the U.S.-Canadian Free Trade Pact by subsidizing the rail transportation costs for Durham wheat. Since the trade agreement, Canadian Durham imports have increased substantially. Byron Dorgan carried the water for the state pretty effectively on this issue.

**SYDNESS RESPONSE:** The issue of Durham imports demands an explanation. However, it underscores how difficult free trade is to obtain and how much work is needed to obtain it. In the long run however, truly free and free trade will benefit the American farmer who is more efficient than any other farmer in the world.

o There is a great deal of concern in Minot and Grand Forks over the effect of defense cuts and the possibility of base closures in these cities. Byron Dorgan has been a major proponent of defense cuts and is opposed to SDI which Grand Forks could be a major beneficiary.

**SYDNESS RESPONSE:** The Democratic defense cuts are not based on a strategic reprioritization, but based on a need to fund their own agenda. While President Bush has already announced a \$50 billion cut, the Democratic proposal beyond that will only return us to a Carter-style defense posture where the nation is unable to respond. There is for the foreseeable future a strategic need for the bases. The challenge for North Dakota's next Senator will be to ensure any closure decisions are based on the strategic needs of the nation--not the political needs.

In regards to SDI, the fall of the Soviet Union has created greater instability, not less. As a result there is greater strategic need for the United States to protect itself from an accidental nuclear launch. Steve is a strong supporter of the Phase I introduction of SDI, or the GPALS approach

o Congressional perks and privileges are a major issue in this race. Congressman Dorgan bounced 98 checks to the now defunct House bank. Originally, he denied bouncing any checks, then he admitted to bouncing four, then released higher numbers on two other occasions. The final number was not released until it was released by the House.



**SYDNESS POSITION:** The bounced checks are another example of how out of touch Byron and the other members of the House of Representatives have gotten. These are the same people who have exempted themselves from civil rights laws, minimum wage laws, and special prosecutor investigations.

o The MIA issue is very important in Fargo. The family of an Airman missing WW II has been very vocal and it was announced today that today one of the soldiers sons would be going to Russia to look for his father. North Dakota has a very high veteran population and addressing these issues is very critical. Byron Dorgan is good on most of these issues. Potential weaknesses include Dorgan's opposition to the flag desecration amendment; his opposition to Desert Storm, and the fact he voted against transferring funds from his official franking account to a special account to pay for mail to the states from Desert Storm soldiers.

**SYDNESS POSITION:** All MIA's need to be accounted for. Also, VA Hospitals need to be maintained. The country made a promise to our veterans and we need to honor that commitment. Sydness would have voted to protect the flag; he would have supported the President; and he would have voted to allow the transfer of funds.

o The abortion issue has not been a major issue to date. Dorgan original ran as a supporter to the right -to-life amendment, but now votes pretty consistently with the pro-choice side. In recent months he has voted for abortions in military hospitals and supported using aborted fetuses for medical research.

**SYDNESS POSITON:** Steve is opposed to abortion except in the cases of rape, incest, and life of the mother. However, Steve is opposed to litmus tests and he is campaign is being co-chaired by the losing pro-life and pro-choice candidates for governor.

# THE TARRANCE GROUP

Research for Decisions in Politics and Public Affairs

Edward A. Goens, III  
President, CEO

V. Lance Tarrance, Jr.  
Chairman, Founder

Brian C. Tringali  
Senior Vice President

David J. Sackett  
Senior Vice President

Michael D. Boudette  
Senior Research Associate

## MEMORANDUM

TO: SYDNESS FOR U.S. SENATE COMMITTEE

FROM: ED GOEAS  
DAVE SACKETT

RE: KEY FINDINGS FROM STATEWIDE SURVEY OF VOTER  
ATTITUDES IN NORTH DAKOTA

DATE: MAY 16, 1992

The Tarrance Group is pleased to present the Sydness for U.S. Senate Committee with the key findings from a statewide survey of voter attitudes in North Dakota.

These key findings are drawn from telephone interviews with N=500 "likely" registered voters throughout the state of North Dakota. Responses to this survey were gathered May 12-14, 1992 and the confidence interval associated with a sample of this type is  $\pm 4.5\%$

### Key Findings

- North Dakota voters are fairly evenly split on a generic ballot for the U.S. Senate at this time, with the Democrat generic candidate ahead by only several points.
- Steve Sydness begins the campaign with a high level of name awareness among voters in the state. His name awareness currently stands at fully seventy-nine percent (79%) and, just as importantly, it is evenly distributed throughout the various regions and media markets in the state.
- Both Dorgan's favorable to unfavorable and job approval ratios are only three to one, and almost half of state voters indicate that he is not doing a good job on the key issues of "reducing wasteful government spending" and "reforming Congress."



## THE TARRANCE GROUP

- Approximately four in ten North Dakota voters indicate that they do not believe that Dorgan has done a good enough job as Congressman to deserve election to the U.S. Senate.
- When both the "hard" and "soft" re-elect ratings are combined into the voter segmentation model, the "pro-Dorgan" segment reaches only 35% while the "anti-Dorgan" segment stands at an almost equal 30%.
- Unlike other parts of the country, President Bush does well among North Dakota voters and leads in a three-way trial ballot test with 42% of the vote, followed by Perot at 29% and Clinton at 24%.
- Driven largely by name awareness, Dorgan leads Sydness in a trial ballot test by over twenty points. However, this lead is very soft in that it is driven largely by voters who don't know Steve Sydness. He also overperforms among Bush voters and straight-ticket Republicans, two groups that won't be with him on election day.
- Awareness of the specifics concerning the 98 checks that Dorgan bounced is fairly low at this point. However, among the subgroup of respondents who know the details of the bounced checks, the ballot test is essentially even.
- Over seventy percent (70%) of North Dakota voters believe that Dorgan shares responsibility for the scandals in Congress and his leadership position in the House is a cause for concern among many segments of the electorate.

Clearly, this is going to be one of the more competitive U.S. Senate races around the country in 1992. President Bush is doing quite well in the state already, and will continue to improve as Perot's ballot strength declines.

Steve Sydness starts the campaign with a significant level of name awareness and his ballot strength will continue to grow as Republicans begin to "come home". While Dorgan is a formidable opponent, his bounced checks and his role as a member of the House leadership are going to be two key issues that voters will focus heavily on. His incumbency will be more of a weakness than a strength.

## Biography of **STEVE SYDNESS**

Steve Sydness is a 5th generation North Dakotan. He was born and raised in Fargo where he lives with his wife Lisa, three-year old daughter Lindsay, and six-month old son, Ken.

Steve works in the areas of International Market Development and Strategic Planning for Great Plains Software, Inc., a Fargo-based publisher of accounting and business-management software.

In January 1991, Steve was appointed by President Bush to The President's Council on Rural America. This 19-member council will present recommendations to the President on what the Federal Government can do to help strengthen rural America.

In 1990, Steve was elected to the Fargo City Commission with 72 percent of the votes. He has oversight responsibility for the City's finances.

Steve is a board member of the North Dakota Venture Capital Corporation.

In 1988, Steve was the Republican candidate for North Dakota's seat in the United States House of Representatives. He has also served as Legislative Counsel to the Republican Caucus of the North Dakota House of Representatives and as Finance Director for a U.S. Senate campaign.

From 1983 to 1986 Steve was an Associate with Kissinger Associates, Inc. in New York. He worked with Dr. Henry Kissinger to provide client organizations with political and economic information and judgment.

Prior to joining Kissinger Associates, Steve spent four years with the general management consulting firm of McKinsey & Company in their New York and Tokyo offices.

Steve received the degree of Master in Business Administration from Harvard Graduate School of Business Administration in 1981. He was elected president of the student body and was the recipient of the J. Leslie Rollins Award for making the most significant contribution to improving student life.

In 1976, Steve received his Bachelor of Arts degree, with honors, in History and Business Administration from Principia College. He also studied at Oxford University. Steve was a member of the Phi Alpha Eta Scholastic Honor Society, dormitory president and varsity athlete; he received the Wall Street Journal Achievement Award for academic excellence and outstanding business experience.

Steve graduated from Fargo North High School in 1972. He served on the high school student council and the YMCA Teen Board. He was a varsity athlete, lettering in swimming and tennis. Steve was elected governor of the Minnesota-Dakotas district of Key Club International, and received that organization's Distinguished Governor Award.

August, 1992



## MEMORANDUM

TO: SENATOR DOLE  
SENATOR COCHRAN

FM: JIM ARNOLD/NRSC

DT: AUGUST 25, 1992

RE: NORTH DAKOTA TRIP/STEVE SYDNESS

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### A. POLITICAL OVERVIEW

Steve Sydness is a 37 year old, former executive of a Fargo based software firm who is making his second race for national office.

Sydness is a 5th generation North Dakotan who grew up in Fargo, is married (Lisa) and has three children. He received a B.A. from Principia College and a Masters in Business Administration from Harvard University.

Sydness was a management consultant with McKinsey & Company in their New York and Tokyo offices and worked as an associate with Kissinger Associates, Inc. in New York before returning to North Dakota.

In 1988, Sydness ran for Congress, against Byron Dorgan, and received 28% of the vote. Most observers of the campaign say Dorgan was successful in painting Sydness as an outsider, since Sydness had only returned to the state two years earlier.

Sydness ran for and won a seat on the Fargo City Commission in 1990, receiving over 70% of the vote. Prior to starting the campaign in February of this year, Sydness was Vice-President of Great Plains Software, Inc., working in international marketing.

The campaign was forced to shift focus when Senator Conrad decided that he would not run for re-election. Dorgan was nominated at the Democratic convention in April to become the Senate candidate.

Dorgan is immensely popular in North Dakota, having won his previous elections for his House seat with over 60% of the vote. When check bouncing became an issue,

Dorgan at first said he felt sure he had not bounced any checks. Then he admitted to four and then 96 and finally to 98. He has since said he was sorry for the overdrafts, and recent polls show that as of now they have hurt him little.

Dorgan is intimating, again, that Sydness is an outsider, and has called for Sydness to release all of the clients Kissinger had when Steve worked for him, since a recent *60 Minutes* program attempted to tie some of Kissinger's clients to the BCCI scandal.

Dorgan is running television spots in which he emphasizes that he is "one of us".

Sydness has run radio spots over the summer pointing out the mess in Congress, as well as talking about jobs and the economy. To date, he has not aired TV spots.

Sydness's stump speech talks about the need for changes in the way Congress operates and reminds voters that Dorgan bounced 98 checks. He has started to carry a broom with him to events, saying we need to sweep clean Congress. He invokes his grandmother's wise words that "a new broom sweeps clean." At his speech before the convention in Houston, Sydness carried the broom to the podium to make his point.

The one other development that may impact the race is Senator Burdick's health. Several weeks ago he was admitted to the coronary care unit of a Fargo hospital. His health has been poor for several years and if he were to resign before November it could result in another Senate election in the state.

**B. SURVEYS:**

**6/92 University of ND/Grand Forks Herald**

**Ballot**

Sydness 30%

Dorgan 59%

**5/92 Precision Marketing**

**Ballot**

Sydness 27%

Dorgan 57%

**C. STATE INFORMATION**

1. Population: 668,800
2. Voter Identification: No state voter registration
3. U.S. Congress: Senate 2 D/ House 1 D



4. Legislature: Senate 36 D and 14 R / House 48 D and 58 R

5. Elections:

1988 Presidential	Bush	56%	Dukakis	43%
1984 Presidential	Reagan	65%	Mondale	34%

6. Political Leadership:

Governor:	George A. Sinner (D)
Lt. Governor:	Lloyd Omdahl (D)
U.S. Senator:	Quentin Burdick (D)
U.S. Senator:	Kent Conrad (D), retiring, open seat defeated Senator Mark Andrews, 50% to 49%

#### D. FINANCIAL DATA

Coordinated: \$110,480

<u>Balances</u>	<u>Gross</u>	<u>On hand</u>
Sydness (7/15/92)	\$222,268	\$ 34,395
Dorgan (6/30/92)	\$739,304	\$494,506

#### E. MEDIA INFORMATION

Cost per point: \$ 38

500 points \$19,000

Number of weeks coordinated will fund (assuming 500 GRP's per week): 5 weeks, 6 days.

#### F. ORGANIZATION

Campaign Manager:	Mark Maddox
General Consultant:	Ed Brookover
Finance Director:	Jeff Rhodes
Polling:	Tarrance & Associates
Media:	The Media Team

August 26, 1992

MEMORANDUM TO THE LEADER

FROM: JOHN DIAMANTAKIOU 

SUBJECT: HOUSE RACE OVERVIEW - NORTH DAKOTA

North Dakota's only House seat is open due to Representative Byron Dorgan, who is seeking the U.S. Senate seat being vacated by Kent Conrad.

#### Latest Poll

University of North Dakota survey of 504 ND residents.  
Margin of error is +/- 4. Survey was conducted 6/1-2.

Candidate	%
Earl Pomeroy (D)	51%
John Korsmo (R)	27%
DK/Other	22%

Pomeroy, a two-term state insurance commissioner, has a big fund-raising advantage over Korsmo, a Fargo businessman. Pomeroy had \$126,000 in the bank as of June 30, compared to \$26,000 for Korsmo.

One issue that has received a great deal of press not only for the Congressional candidates, but for the U.S. Senate candidates as well is the "congressional pledge". The pledge, similar to the reason Conrad is stepping down, says candidates shall agree not to seek re-election if the "unified budget deficit" is not cut in half by the end of one term. The Democrats do not intend to sign the pledge. On the other hand, the Republicans are eager to sign it and challenge their opponents to do the same.



**NORTH DAKOTA**

Primary Date: June 9, 1992

Filing Date: April 10, 1992

Status of Incumbent: Open Seat.

Candidates:

Republican

Ed Schafer, Bismarck businessman

Democrat

Nick Spaeth, Attorney General

Primary Results:

Ed Schafer (R)	unopposed	100%
Nick Spaeth (D)	49,535	65%
Bill Heigaard (D)	26,603	35%

Polling:

University of North Dakota Poll, conducted for the Fargo Forum, Grand Forks Herald, and the Minot Daily News, June 1-2, 1992 of 504 adults statewide. Margin of error is  $\pm 7.0$  percent.

General Election Trial Heat:

Spaeth (D)	49%
Schafer (R)	36%
Undecided	15%

## NORTH DAKOTA

### REPUBLICAN ELECTED OFFICIALS

#### Constitutional Offices:

Auditor **ROBERT PETERSON**

Public Service Commissioner **DALE SANDSTROM**

Commissioner of Labor **CRAIG HAGEN**

#### Congressional Delegation:

##### U.S. Senate

There are no Republican Senators from North Dakota.

Senator Kent Conrad has announced that he will not be seeking re-election in 1992.

##### U.S. House of Representatives

0 R, 1 D

Congressman Byron Dorgan (D) is seeking the U.S. Senate seat.

#### State Legislature:

##### State Senate

26 R

27 D

The Republican leader is **GARY NELSON**.

##### State House

58 R

48 D

The Speaker of the House is **RONALD ANDERSON**. The Majority Leader is **RICHARD KLOBEC**.



## **NORTH DAKOTA**

### **1992 PARTY STRUCTURE**

#### **STATE PARTY**

##### **Committee Members:**

###### **Chairman KEVIN CRAMER**

Elected: June 1991

Next election: June 1993

**CRAMER** is the former Executive Director of the North Dakota party. Cramer is an effective spokesperson for the party and our Republican candidates.

###### **National Committeeman BERNIE DARDIS**

Elected: April 1992

Next Election: April 1996

**DARDIS** is Vice-Chair of the state party. He was elected in April of this year, defeating Jack Bernabucci, who resigned following his defeat. He owns a sign company in Fargo.

###### **National Committeewoman CONNIE NICHOLAS**

Elected: April 1992

Next Election: April 1996

**NICHOLAS** is a member of the executive committee for the state party and a regional chairperson. Her husband has served in the state legislature for the past ten years. They reside on a farm in Cando.

##### **Bush/Quayle '92 Leadership:**

Chairman: **MIKE UNJEM**

Co-Chairman: **JIM SCHLOSSER**

##### **Victory '92 Leadership:**

Chairman: **KEVIN CRAMER**

##### **State Party Overview:**

The North Dakota Party runs a very good operation. They have a full-time staff of six people in addition to a full-time, paid Chairman.

**Financial Status:**

The State Party has approximately \$50,000 on hand. The Party has established a very successful low-dollar fundraising program that enables it to assist legislative candidates as well as the three statewide candidates.

The Victory '92 account was recently opened with nearly \$20,000 raised from two stops by **MARILYN QUAYLE** on July 23 & 24. The Victory '92 account was further assisted by an August 3rd roundtable event with Secretary **MADIGAN**.



## **NORTH DAKOTA POLITICAL LANDSCAPE**

### **ELECTION UPDATE**

#### **1992 Ballot:**

President/Vice President

U.S. Senate: **KENT CONRAD** (D) is not seeking re-election

U.S. House: 1D-open seat

Governor: **GEORGE SINNER** (D) is not seeking re-election

Lt. Governor

Secretary of State

Attorney General

Public Service Commissioner

Agriculture Commissioner

Tax Commissioner

Treasurer

Auditor

Insurance Commissioner

All State House - 106 seats

1/2 State Senate - 27 seats

Term Limits Initiative

Constitutional measure for veterans initiative

#### **1992 Electoral College Votes:**      3

The following individuals were selected as Electors: Sheil Schafer, Frank Wenstrom, and Betty Rindee.

#### **State Convention:**

The State Convention was held in Fargo, April 2-5. The seventeen member delegation consists of nine women and eight men. Party Chair Kevin Cramer is Chair of the Delegation.

#### **Political Environment/Overview:**

North Dakota is poised for a tremendous year in 1992. With open Senate, US House, and Governor's races fielding strong candidates, coupled with a strong field of legislative and constitutional office candidates, the party could expand on the success of the 1990 elections.

The North Dakota GOP has had a string of bad years since 1984. In 1984, the Republicans controlled the Governor's office, one U.S. Senate seat, and held a majority in both houses of the legislature. They also had control of nine out of the eleven constitutional offices. Currently, Democrats control the Governor's office, the Congressional seat and nine of the eleven constitutional offices. Republicans are hoping for big gains in 1992.

Democrat Governor **GEORGE SINNER** will not seek re-election. US Senator **KENT CONRAD** has also announced he will not seek re-election. Congressman **BYRON DORGAN** will seek the open Senate seat.

#### Presidential Primary:

The results of the Presidential Primary held on June 9, 1992 were as follows:

<u>Republican</u>		<u>Democrat</u>	
George Bush	39,854	Lyndon Larouche	7,083
Pat Paulsen	4,107	Tom Shiekman	4,890
Ross Perot (write in)	3,452	Charles Wood	6,669
		Ross Perot (write in)	8,951
		Bill Clinton	3,969

#### Gubernatorial Campaign:

In the race for the Republican gubernatorial nomination, Bismarck businessman **ED SCHAFER** came on strong in the final two weeks prior to the April 3rd state convention and overtook the assumed favorite, State Senator **GARY NELSON**, as well as State Representative **GARY PORTER**. Schafer won the party endorsement on the second ballot. He appears well-positioned and well-financed for the fall election. **PAUL WILSON** is consulting the Schafer campaign. State Representative **ROSEMARIE MYRDAL** was endorsed as Lt. Governor on the ticket with Schafer.

**BILL HEIGAARD** was the endorsed Democrat nominee, however, he was handily defeated by Attorney General **NICK SPAETH** (65% to 35%) in a bitter June 9th primary battle. Spaeth opted to defy tradition and challenge the endorsed candidate.

#### U.S. Senate:

U.S. Senator **KENT CONRAD (D)** announced one day prior to the State Convention (April 2) that he would not seek re-election. With Conrad's announcement, Representative **BYRON DORGAN (D)** was the endorsed Democrat candidate to replace Conrad. Fargo City Commissioner **STEVE SYDNESS** was endorsed by the State Convention as the Republican nominee. The latest poll available (April 20) shows Dorgan with a thirty point lead.



Conrad had promised in 1987 that he would not seek re-election if the federal budget problem was not brought under control during his term in office. Many speculate that as a result of pressure Conrad faced from the media to carryout his 1987 promise combined with Burdick's failing health, this offered him an opportunity to fulfill his pledge to the voters and potentially seek the open senate seat should Burdick be unable to fulfill his term. This recent speculation was bolstered by a Newsweek report that suggested that Conrad is considering running for the Senate seat of **QUENTIN BURDICK** (D), who is reportedly in failing health and is up for re-election in 1994.

### Key Congressional races:

Republican **J.T. KORSMO** will face Democrat **EARL POMEROY** in the Fall. The same poll on April 20 has shown Korsmo trailing Pomeroy by 19 points.

### Other Races:

Virtually every statewide race is on the ballot in 1992. Republicans will have the opportunity to take control of the State Senate where they are currently in the minority by a single vote (26R-27D).

An aggressive candidate recruitment effort in 1991 has enabled the State Party to field credible candidates for each of the eleven constitutional races. The North Dakota Republican Party has endorsed the following candidates: **DUKE ALBRECHT**, Attorney General; **RODNEY BACKMAN**, Tax Commissioner; **BILL BOWMAN**, Agriculture Commissioner; **AL JAEGER**, Secretary of State; **JOHN T. KORSMO**, U.S. House; **CLAUS H. LEMBKE**, State Treasurer; **ROSEMARIE MYRDAL**, Lt. Governor; **KENT A. OLSON**, Insurance Commissioner; **EDWARD SCHAFER**, Governor; **STEVE SYDNESS**, U.S. Senate; **ROBERT W. PETERSON**, State Auditor; AND **LEO M. REINBOLD**, Public Service Commission.

### Redistricting:

North Dakota is an at-large Congressional seat.

North Dakota passed its legislative redistricting bill in November 1991. The number of legislative districts was reduced from 53 to 49. In March, Attorney General Nicholas Spaeth declared the plan unconstitutional because it would cut short the terms of three Republican Senators; however, the Senators refused to pursue the case and agreed to forfeit the remainder of their terms. The Three Affiliated Tribes, a group of Native Americans, has filed a lawsuit in federal court contesting redistricting; the state is preparing a countersuit to dismiss the case.

Miscellaneous:

To date, the term limitations initiative and the constitutional measure for veterans are the only initiatives which have qualified for the Fall ballot. Both initiative drives have mounted credible campaigns which should spark voter interest and possibly increase voter turnout. Approximately twelve other initiatives are up for consideration, however none are of significant stature.

According to the Secretary of State's office, Perot now has the adequate number of petition signatures in order to be placed on the fall ballot.

08/25/92 02:13 PM

**North Dakota  
1992 Convention**

State Convention: April 2-5, 1992  
Presidential Primary: June 9, 1992  
Presidential Caucus: March 5-19, 1992 (Democrat)  
General Primary: June 9, 1992

**Delegate Breakdown:**

Total: 17  
8 men  
9 women

**Rules Committee:**

John Gosbee  
Eileen Larson

**Credentials Committee:**

Yvonne Kroll  
Earl Allen

**Platform Committee:**

Bernie Dardis  
Connie Nicholas

**Permanent Organization Committee:**

Wendy Boyer  
Grant Shaft



## ADDRESS TO THE REPUBLICAN NATIONAL CONVENTION

### HOUSTON, TEXAS

BY U.S. SENATE CANDIDATE STEVE SYDNESSEN  
(Edit Against Delivery)

Today I am here to deliver to you the message I've been hearing from my fellow North Dakotans for many months. From the farmers, the homemakers, and the small businesspeople, the message is the same, Congress is not working and it is time to clean House--and Senate.

My Grandmother used to say, "A new broom sweeps clean." This new broom symbolizes the spirit of change which can be found all across North Dakota; it symbolizes the deep-seated conviction that the only way we are going to solve our state's and nation's problems is to first fix the problem that is congress itself. And, I am confident the people of North Dakota and across America will honor that spirit of change in November and send new brooms--new Senators and Representatives--to Washington to clean up the mess.

The changes the people of North Dakota want are simple.

First, my friends and neighbors know Congress is broken. We are looking for a new generation of leadership who will act--not just talk in sound bites. We want Representatives and Senators who will make the tough decisions.

North Dakotans want Congress to live by the laws it passes--like Civil Rights Laws and Minimum Wage Laws. North Dakotans have a very low tolerance for hypocrisy.

North Dakotans don't want a permanent congress. Congressional term limits is an idea whose time has come.

Second, North Dakotans want our country's financial house put in order. We are ready for the tough actions this will take. We want a line item veto. We support a balanced budget amendment with teeth--not some watered down version that can be sidestepped. We saw how easily the Democrats trampled Gramm-Rudman, the folks on mainstreet will not be fooled twice.

Third, we want to work. Not just today, but tomorrow. And for a wage you can raise a family on. We do not want jobs just for ourselves, but also for our children. North Dakota and rural America have suffered economic trauma in recent years and it has taken its toll. Two-thirds of our UND and NDSU graduates leave when they finish school because they can't find jobs in North Dakota. We are losing a generation of leaders. Rural America's pain is real, its struggle is now.

That is why I can't understand why the Democrats cut the number of rural enterprise zones the President requested from 100 to 25 in the House Ways & Means committee. Now Senate Democrats wants to dilute what's left. The Democratic rhetoric on curing the critical ills of rural America is about as effective as a get well card. The message is "Sorry to hear you are sick, get better soon." It's a nice thought, but it won't cure what ails you.

The people want other problems dealt with as well. We need to make health care more accessible and affordable. We can do that by controlling costs, cutting administrative overhead, and reforming the malpractice system.

North Dakotans need an ag policy that works. Congress is trying to micro-manage every farm and ranch in the country. Congress even makes our farmers go to a government office and prove they are farmers. We have got to get the government off our backs and out of the way of our farmers and ranchers. Its getting to the point where you need an environmental impact statement just to spread manure! And when that happens, you can bet the Democratic Congress will exempt themselves from that law too!

Finally, Our farmers need a wetlands policy that makes sense and protects the rights of property owners .

In closing, I want to make it clear everyone in the hall and everyone in Washington: change is coming. From my grandmother, "a new broom sweeps clean" was sound advice. Coming from the voters this year, it is a promise.

### Dole has mixed up priorities

LAMOURE, N.D. — I see that the Republicans are going to bring Sen. Bob Dole to North Dakota to raise money for their Senate candidate, Steve Sydness.

Last year, Dole wrote to President Bush talking about the trouble Republican candidates are going to have this year because of collapsed grain prices. He was proposing that the president take some action to deal with the trouble in the farm belt. Of course, nothing has been done by the White House. Its farm policy is still causing massive farm failures.

But the interesting thing about Sen. Dole is he was writing not so much to express concern about farmers who are being crushed by low prices, as he was to express concern about what this might do to the political fortunes of the Republican Party.

It looks to me like Sen. Dole has his priorities mixed up. He's upset about farm policy — not because it hurts farmers, but because it hurts Republicans. How about some concern from Republicans for the public interest?

Pat Dean

G. F. Herald

8/23/92

B-3





**SWEEPING UP —** Steve Sydness brought his broom to the Republican National Convention.

## Sydness gets moment on stage

By BRASHIER  
Staff Press

By GARY KORTE  
Staff Correspondent

HOUSTON — Steve Sydness got his five minutes on the stage Tuesday, a short time to introduce himself and his broom to the Republican National Convention.

But it was Mississippi Sen. Trent Lott who had the best finger for the North Dakota Senate candidate's Democratic challenger, Rep. Byron Dorgan.

"Unlike his Democratic opponent, he knows how to sign checks that don't bounce," Lott said in introducing Sydness, a Fargo businessman.

Dorgan's longstanding popularity took a dip in the

See SYDNES — Page A7

## □ Sydness

(Continued from Page A1)

polls after revelations in March that he wrote nearly 100 overdrafts at the defunct House bank, but he is still considered the favorite to succeed outgoing Sen. Kent Conrad, D-N.D.

Sydness didn't mention Dorgan in a brief speech to the convention Tuesday afternoon, but he brought along the broom he uses to dramatize his theme that Democrats should be swept out of Congress.

"My grandmother used to say, 'A new broom sweeps clean.' This new broom symbolizes the spirit of change which can be found all across North Dakota," Sydness said.

"It symbolizes the deep-seated conviction that the only way we are going to solve our state's and nation's problems is to first fix the problem that is Congress itself."

Sydness endorsed congressional term limitations, a line-item veto and a balanced budget amendment.

"North Dakotans want our country's financial house put in order," Sydness said.

When Sydness kicked off his campaign with the broom a few weeks ago, Dorgan's response was that the broom should be followed with a shovel.

Sydness was one of several GOP Senate candidates who were allowed to address the convention early Tuesday afternoon at the end of the convention's morning session.

The Astrodome was virtually empty by the time Sydness mounted the podium, but his speech was interrupt-

*North Daily*

8/19/92

A-1

## N.D. delegates say GOP farm plank helps Bush

By Philip Brasher  
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

HOUSTON — North Dakota's delegates to the Republican National Convention say their party's platform will make President Bush more attractive to farmers than the Democratic ticket.

The farm plank in the GOP platform approved Monday is five pages long. Among other things, it says that there should be less regulation of wetlands, an idea with wide appeal in North Dakota, the delegates say.

"The Republican Party ... has made a commitment not to agree with anything that will hurt our farmers," said Lance Hagen, a delegate who farms near Ellendale, N.D.

The Democratic platform, on the other hand, mentioned agriculture only briefly, irking some farm

groups like the National Farmers Union that often support Democratic policies.

"It's five lines of beating up on Republicans and two lines of saying we should do better," said Kevin Cramer, North Dakota's state GOP chairman.

The GOP platform says the party "is the home of the farmer, rancher and forester," backs expansion of farm exports and opposes price and production controls.

Steve Sydness, a Republican Senate candidate in North Dakota, helped write a paragraph in the farm plank on wetlands, Cramer said.

It reads in part: "Land that is not truly wet should not be classified as a wetland. Protection of environmentally sensitive wetlands must not come at the price of disparaging landowners' property rights."

FARGO FARM

(BIZ)

8/18/92



Minot Daily  
8/18/92  
B-1

# Dorgan demands investigation of low wheat prices

JILL SCHRAMM  
Staff Writer

Wheat prices that are quick to go down and w to come up look suspicious to North Dakota p. Byron Dorgan.

Dorgan asked the General Accounting Office, ngress's research arm, on Monday to investi-e the cause of price swings.

"I am a little suspicious that a series of things nbined here to not have markets moving up-rd when they should, but to provide the Vase-e to help markets collapse," said Dorgan, a mocrat.

le mentioned the U.S. Agriculture Depart-nt's "cheap grain policy" as a factor in pricing t would not speculate on what is causing ces to drop more easily than rise.

Minot grain elevator managers say supply-d-demand remains the driving force in the rket.

"There is just more information," Cargill man-ager Tim McKay said of grain stock supplies. "You get world figures now."

World stocks were high during a point when U.S. stocks were low, resulting in no financial boon for local farmers, McKay said.

Alvin Varty, manager for Farmers Union Ele-vator, added that large crops in 1985 and 1986 gave the United States sizeable reserves to fall back on when drought came. Canadian durum in the U.S. market also depressed prices, he said.

Wheat went to \$4 a bushel this past year as stocks eventually dwindled and grain was sold to the former Russia, McKay said.

The milling durum price was \$2.70 at Minot Farmers Elevator Monday, while spring wheat at 14 percent protein was \$2.81.

Dorgan requested a GAO investigation in 1989 after durum prices collapsed despite two years of drought and reduction in carry-over stocks.

## Grain growers question projections

BISMARCK — Frank Dilse, Scranton, president of the North Dakota Grain Growers Association, says prices farmers in the state are receiving for wheat and durum don't make sense.

"Most of the wheat-producing areas of the country have been plagued throughout the summer by poor weather, hampering both production and harvest," Dilse said.

There is plenty of on-farm stor-age available, so there should be less wheat to market, he said.

"With short supplies of wheat available for sale, you'd expect the prices to be going up but they've been dropping steadily all

summer," Dilse said.

Charles Rohde, Langdon, presi-dent of the United States Durum Growers Association, agreed.

"Though supplies are short and we're going to have less available for sale, our prices are at rock-bottom levels," Rohde said.

Dilse and Rohde blamed the problem on market over-reaction to occasional good news.

"A recent industry survey team ... issued glowing reports about the prospects for a 40-bushel average crop in the state," Dilse said. "That's ridiculous."

Dilse said the actual yield is like-ly to be 5-8 bushels below that figure.



## Pair like moments on podium

By Craig McEwen  
MINNESOTA EDITOR

HOUSTON — North Dakota Republican Party candidate for the U.S. Senate Steve Sydness and Fargo-born actor Charlie Korsmo got the rare opportunity Tuesday to speak at the National Republican Convention in Houston.

Korsmo, 14, gave the Pledge of Allegiance to open Tuesday's evening convention session.

He walked to the podium wearing a red, white and blue t-shirt promoting his father John T. Korsmo's 1992 Republican Party bid for the U.S. Congress.

"Please join me in the Pledge of Allegiance," Charlie said, while leading the 2,210 delegates in reciting the pledge.

Sydness, a Fargo city commissioner, is seeking election to the seat currently held by Sen. Kent Conrad, D-N.D., who has chosen not to seek re-election.

Sydness will face Rep. Byron Dorgan, D-N.D. who wants to move from the House to the Senate.

"It's time for the current members of Congress to go," Sydness told a small group of delegates and alternates who remained in the Houston Astrodome at the end of Tuesday's morning session.

He repeated a campaign slogan that he has already used in his North Dakota political appearances.

"A new broom sweeps clean," he told the delegates, attributing the saying to Grandma Dag (Dagney Sydness) his father's mother.

Area  
Back page, Column three



North Dakota senatorial candidate Steve Sydness holds a broom during his address to the Republican National Convention Tuesday.

## Area

Continued from Page A1

"What this country needs is a bunch of new brooms in Washington," Sydness said from the same stage that President George Bush will address the nation from on Thursday night.

"We're looking for a new generation of leadership who will make the tough decisions," Sydness said.

North Dakotans, he said, don't want a permanent Congress. "Congressional term limits is an idea whose time has come."

North Dakotans, he said, want the nation's financial house put back in order.

"We want jobs — not just for today but for tomorrow, and for a wage you can raise a family on," Sydness said.

North Dakota, he said, needs an agriculture policy that works. "We have got to get the government off our backs and out of the way of our farmers and ranchers," he said.

The remark drew a round of applause from the audience and individual accolades later from members of the Kansas delegation.

"Rural America's pain is real and its struggle is now," he said.

Sydness said he hopes the convention experience will give him good exposure.

"I sure enjoyed it," he said. "I think I had the message that most North Dakotans would have wanted to deliver if they had the chance."

Sydness was notified only a week ago that he could speak at the convention. He does not know how he was selected, he said.

It was his first appearance at a national political convention. "It is everything that I would have imagined the convention to be. I think it's great," he said.

Sydness said his campaign is going well. "I couldn't be happier. All of our objectives that we set for ourselves over the course of the summer are more than accomplished," he said. "We are going into the fall ready to win this thing. I feel very good about the prospects."

Korsmo said he got a letter a while back asking him to read the pledge. But he didn't realize until later that it was for the Republican National Convention.

"I said, 'Yeah, it would be fun,'" Korsmo said. "We don't go to Houston very often. It was fine."

Korsmo flew into Houston on Tuesday morning, rented a car, found his hotel, watched television for a while, came down to the Astrodome to rehearse "and tried to handle our way past security guards," he said.

"Now we're going to mingle a little bit and go back to the hotel," he said, following his presentation Tuesday night.

Korsmo, who lives in Minneapolis with his mother, has appeared in five movies — "Men Don't Learn," "Dick Tracy," "What About Bob," "The Doctor" and "Hook."

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Media Release

August 27, 1992

## DEM-NPL CHAIR CHIDKS SYDNESS AS "INSIDER"

Republican Senate candidate Steve Sydness is trying hard to pass himself off as a political outsider, but just the reverse is true, said Democratic-NPL chairman George Gaukler today.

Gaukler offered these comments on Sydness's decision to bring Bob Dole into the state to help raise campaign funds:

"All the evidence tells me Sydness has been playing the insiders game for a long, long time, and he's been playing with a lot of Republicans who just plain do not like North Dakota.

"Sydness used to work for Henry Kissinger, the insider's insider, and tomorrow, he'll stand shoulder to shoulder with Senator Bob Dole in Fargo.

"Bringing Dole into our state shows very clearly that Sydness has not taken North Dakota's interests to heart.

"Inviting Bob Dole in is a slap in the face for our farmers, ranchers and everyone else who works hard for a living. Senator Dole did everything he could to prevent North Dakota farmers and rural communities from receiving desperately needed drought relief in 1989.

"Our Party intends to confront Dole and Sydness on their anti-North Dakota leanings tomorrow through a full page advertisement in the Fargo Forum.

"Sydness and the rest of the Republican ticket just don't get it. Bringing anti-North Dakota politicians and bureaucrats like Vice President Dan Quayle, Agriculture Secretary Edward Madigan and Senator Bob Dole into our state simply underscores the Republican Party's lack of commitment to North Dakota and the rest of rural America."

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