

DAVID PRYOR

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I was meeting Tom Courtney - former Bumpers aide now doing Finance (and some Agriculture) for DP--when DP came out and asked me to come in.

I asked him how's it going on Finance? "It's an interesting committee. I like it. I'm becoming an expert on social security. And I'm learning a lot of politics from Bob Dole and Russell Long."

Do you feel like a candidate yet? "No. I don't feel like a candidate. That's because I don't have an opponent. We're going to have a big, fund raiser in Little Rock next month--our first one. A month later, we'll have one in Washington. The idea is to collect a lot of money this year to scare any opponent out of the race. That seems to be the strategy these days. I had two or three little fund raisers a couple of years ago. But these will be the first of the campaign. We hope to raise most of our money this year so we can turn our attention to the campaign next year. At least that's our game plan. But they have to drag me out to raise money. I hate it worse than anything else."

The office rearrangement has Knox, Don and Anne now in the inner circle office. Anne is doing both David and Barbara's schedule and coordinates them. That is clearly a campaign move, Anne knows Arkansas. Melinda does not. And she is office manager--with Doug, now.

DP talked about Bumpers running for President - said he was, but had no org. and no money.

We chinned very briefly.

But most of the Senators I've talked with have used the office change to rearrange the staff. PT has speech writer of press, Dennis and Rich over on same side of corridor as he is. Have to keep some LA's on other side so

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it won't seem like right or wrong side of sheet, or a 1st class, 2nd class situation.

Andrews just given Mike and Becky up next to him--the PR people.
DQ has Mary and Lester and Larry together and LA's quite separate, but together.