

Top political bloggers to speak at University of Kansas's Dole Institute

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The country's top political bloggers will be at the University of Kansas' Dole Institute of Politics next week to discuss the effects Web logs will have on the 2008 presidential election.  
From the impeachment of President Bill Clinton to the millions of dollars raised for 2004 presidential candidate Howard Dean, political blogs and those who create them have been credited and blamed for many of recent history's most compelling political stories.  
Five bloggers poised to make a difference in the current campaign will comprise the panel for "Blog to the Chief: The Impact of Political Blogs on the 2008 Election." The event takes place at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 13, at the Dole Institute. It is free and open to the public. A film crew from C-SPAN will record the event.  
Panel members will be Patrick Hynes, blog consultant for Sen. John McCain's Straight Talk America PAC and creator of the blog Ankle Biting Pundits; Erick Erickson, managing editor of the conservative blog RedState.com; Jerome Armstrong, one of the architects of Howard Dean's Internet campaign; Joan McCarter, founder of Power Line Blog.  
David Perlmutter, KU professor of journalism, will moderate the event. Perlmutter is the author of "Blogwars," which examines the history of blogs and their effect on politics.  
"Bloggers have dramatically altered the way campaigns are run," said Bill Lacy, director of the Dole Institute. "It's fitting that we kick off our discussion of the 2008 campaign with the nation's best."