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INSIDE THE BELTWAY

by John McCaslin

ALL'S WELL

The GOP's presidential front-runner and the conservative activist who had become his chief antagonist in recent months literally kissed and made up last night, ending one of the more intense intraparty feuds of the election season.

Senate Majority Leader Bob Dole and Arianna Huffington were all smiles and gracious words last night during a book party thrown by the Huffingtons at their grand home in Northwest.

The scheduled event was a fete for Ralph Z. Hallow, political reporter for The Washington Times, and political commentator Bradley S. O'Leary - co-authors of the newly released "Presidential Follies."

The graciousness between host and guest contrasted sharply with the rancor that erupted over an op-ed piece by Mrs. Huffington on the failings of Mr. Dole's candidacy.

"Whatever Arianna said in the past, it was never personal," said her husband, former Rep. Michael Huffington. "The friendship was always there, but it's nice to see them face to face again. The important thing . . . is to support the nominee."