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Ford Gains Edge In Minn. Contest

By Edward Walsh

Washington Post Staff Writer

ST. PAUL, June 25—President Ford won a non-binding presidential preference contest with Ronald Reagan at the Minnesota Independent-Republican Party convention here today, but

Mr. Ford defeated Reagan by a 1,018-to-789 vote in balloting by delegates to the state convention, gaining 50 per cent of the vote but failing to win an official endorsement by the conven-

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The Washington Post

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SATURDAY, JUNE 26, 1976

Phone (202) 223-6000



N.Y. Times 6/26/76

The New York

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— NEW YORK, SATURDAY



Associated Press

Ronald Reagan and his wife, Nancy, waiting in a hallway to appear before the Minnesota Independent-Republican convention in St. Paul yesterday.

Ford Presses for Key Gain in Minnesota

By R. W. APPLE Jr.

Special to The New York Times

ST. PAUL, June 25—President Ford headed tonight toward the capture of all or nearly all of Minnesota's 18 at-large dele-



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Los Angeles Times

REAGAN, MRS. FORD IN MINNESOTA

Continued from First Page

fight against the incumbent for the presidential nomination was not divisive and not injurious to party unity for the general election campaign.

Earlier, when he arrived here after midnight Thursday, he snapped an-

grily at questioners seeking his views on the Ford faction's control of the convention.

"Everything they have done has been divisive in this campaign," he said.

In his long speech to the state con-

vention delegates, Reagan emphasized that "I don't believe I have said anything that is not basic Republican philosophy."

But just standing for Republican principles won't be enough to win over the Democrats and independents the GOP presidential nominee must have to win in November, he





THAT HURT!—Nancy Reagan winces after someone squeezed too hard in a handshake at GOP state meeting in St. Paul.

AP Wirephoto

Reagan Battling to Gain 4 More Minnesota Votes

BY RICHARD BERGHOLZ

Times Political Writer

ST. PAUL, Minn.—President Ford continued his supremacy in Minnesota's 42-member Republican delegation.

E 261 1976

Daily News 6/26/76

Delegates at Lunch



Cheers for Reagan, Betty

St. Paul, Minn., June 25 (UPI)—Ronald Reagan had Minnesota Republicans standing in the aisles cheering today, but Betty Ford also brought them to their feet in the battle for the state's 18 at-large delegates to the GOP National Convention.

The two spoke at the Minnesota Independent-Republican convention, where President Ford appeared to have the support of all 18 delegates to be elected tonight. The President already had a 17 to 0 lead in Minnesota delegates picked earlier at district con-

UP -065

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(CONFIDENT FORD)

WASHINGTON (UPI) -- PRESIDENT FORD STILL IS CONFIDENT HE WILL WIN THE REPUBLICAN PRESIDENTIAL NOMINATION ON THE FIRST BALLOT AND THE ELECTION IN THE FALL, HIS PRESS SPOKESMAN SAID MONDAY.

PRESS SECRETARY RON NESSEN SAID FORD BELIEVES HE IS "A GOOD PRESIDENT" AND THAT WILL GIVE HIM AN ADVANTAGE OVER RONALD REAGAN, HIS GOP OPPONENT FOR THE NOMINATION, AND HIS DEMOCRATIC OPPONENT IN THE NOVEMBER ELECTION.

NESSEN SAID THAT AS FAR AS THE DELEGATE COUNT IS CONCERNED DURING LAST WEEKEND'S CONVENTIONS, "IT TURNED OUT AS EXPECTED."

HE ADDED THAT THE "SURPRISE" BONUS WAS THE ANNOUNCEMENT THAT 20 WEST VIRGINIA DELEGATES ARE IN FORD'S CAMP.

"HE STILL ANTICIPATES WINNING ON THE FIRST BALLOT," NESSEN SAID.

MRS. FORD WILL REPRESENT THE PRESIDENT AT THE MINNESOTA REPUBLICAN CONVENTION ON FRIDAY IN ST. PAUL. THE FIRST LADY PINCH HIT FOR HER HUSBAND LAST FRIDAY AT THE IOWA CONVENTION.

NESSEN SAID HE DID NOT KNOW WHETHER THIS WOULD BE A "PATTERN."

HE SAID THAT FORD HAD BEEN TELEPHONING SOME DELEGATES AROUND THE COUNTRY.

THE PRESIDENT WILL HOST A LUNCHEON FOR 22 WEST VIRGINIA DELEGATES FRIDAY AND MAY BE HOLDING SIMILAR FUNCTIONS TO BOLSTER HIS SEARCH FOR CRUCIAL DELEGATES.

UPI 06-21 12:57 PED

UP-018

(FORD)

WASHINGTON (UPI) -- PRESIDENT FORD IS USING THE TELEPHONE AND INVITATIONS TO THE WHITE HOUSE TO PERSUADE DELEGATES TO SUPPORT HIS CANDIDACY IN THE CLIFF HANGING CONTEST FOR THE REPUBLICAN NOMINATION.

THE PERSONAL APPROACH MARKED A NEW STAGE IN FORD'S STYLE. HE WILL BE CAMPAIGNING MOSTLY FROM THE WHITE HOUSE, AND LEAVING SOME OF THE REMAINING PRECONVENTION POLITICAL TRIPS TO HIS WIFE.

TODAY, HOWEVER, HE FLIES TO INDIANAPOLIS FOR A FEW HOURS, TO ADDRESS THE NATIONAL CONVENTION OF THE JUNIOR CHAMBER OF COMMERCE. THE APPEARANCE WAS BILLED AS "NONPOLITICAL", WITH NO CROWD GATHERING IN THE STATE THAT GAVE FORD ONLY NINE OF ITS GOP DELEGATES WHILE 45 WENT TO CHALLENGER RONALD REAGAN.

THE PRESIDENT IS SENDING MRS. FORD TO ST. PAUL FRIDAY TO SPEAK IN HIS BEHALF BEFORE THE MINNESOTA STATE GOP CONVENTION IN HOPES OF PICKING UP 42 DELEGATES THERE. REAGAN WILL BE IN ST. PAUL TO ADDRESS THE SAME CONVENTION.

THE PRESIDENT WILL HOST A LUNCHEON AT THE WHITE HOUSE FOR 22 WEST VIRGINIA DELEGATES FRIDAY WITH INDICATIONS THAT THERE WILL BE MORE SUCH ACTIVITIES IN THE WEEKS BEFORE THE CONVENTION SHOWDOWN IN KANSAS CITY, MO., IN MID-AUGUST.

PETER KAYE, FORD'S CAMPAIGN SPOKESMAN, SAID HE DOUBTS FORD WILL TRAVEL TO ANY OF THE REMAINING CONVENTION STATES IN COMING WEEKS. IN ADDITION TO WOOLING THE UNCOMMITTED DELEGATES, THE PRESIDENT'S CAMPAIGNERS WILL GO AFTER "SOFT" REAGAN VOTES, HE ADDED.

FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE WEEK FORD WILL BE PREOCCUPIED WITH PREPARATION OF THE ANTIBUSING LEGISLATION HE EXPECTS TO SUBMIT TO CONGRESS SHORTLY. HE ALSO WILL FLY TO PUERTO RICO THIS WEEKEND FOR THE TWO-DAY ECONOMIC SUMMIT WITH WESTERN LEADERS.

UPI 06-22 09:37 AED

CAMPAIGN BRIEFS

J.A.T.
6/22/76

First Lady to Continue Trips on Ford Behalf

From Times Wire Services

For the second straight weekend, First Lady Betty Ford will represent her husband at a Republican state convention, and more such appearances are probable.

Fords Extend Visiting Hours

WASHINGTON (UPI)—President and Mrs. Ford have extended White House visiting hours over the Fourth of



Why Aren't Wives Aiding In the Ford Campaign?

"I can't tell you why it wasn't done before I arrived. I just came to the Ford Committee two weeks ago," explained Elly Peterson, newly appointed deputy chairman of President Ford's campaign committee.

For several months, wives of Ford cabinet members, White House staffers and other Republican bigwigs have wondered why none of them had been approached to

The Democrat, who has served in high levels at the State and Defense Departments, said he was unsuccessful then in getting veteran Democrats Jim Rowe, Ed Williams, Clark Clifford and others to join him.

Nitze's support for Carter grew even stronger when he heard the candidate make a speech about detente nine months ago.

N.Y. Times
6/22
TUESDAY, JUNE 22, 1976
Mrs. Ford to Seek Votes
In Minnesota for Husband
WASHINGTON, June 21 (AP)
—For the second straight week,
Betty Ford will represent her
husband at a Republican state

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FORD-POLITICS
BY FRANK CORMIER

WASHINGTON (AP) -- FOR THE SECOND STRAIGHT WEEK, FIRST LADY BETTY FORD WILL REPRESENT HER HUSBAND AT A REPUBLICAN STATE CONVENTION -- THIS ONE IN MINNESOTA -- AND MORE SUCH APPEARANCES ARE LIKELY.

WHITE HOUSE PRESS SECRETARY RON NESSEN SAID MONDAY HE KNOWS OF NO PRESENT PLANS FOR PRESIDENT FORD TO MAKE ANY POLITICAL TRIPS BETWEEN NOW AND THE REPUBLICAN NATIONAL CONVENTION IN KANSAS CITY IN MID-AUGUST.

HOWEVER, NESSEN SAID MRS. FORD MIGHT WELL TURN UP AT OTHER STATE CONVENTIONS CHOOSING DELEGATES WHO WILL DECIDE THE CLOSELY FOUGHT CONTEST BETWEEN THE PRESIDENT AND CHALLENGER RONALD REAGAN.

MRS. FORD'S PRESS OFFICE ANNOUNCED THE FIRST LADY'S PLANS TO FLY TO ST. PAUL FRIDAY TO ATTEND THE MINNESOTA GOP CONVENTION. SHE ATTENDED THE IOWA STATE CONVENTION THIS PAST WEEKEND.

NESSEN ANNOUNCED THAT FORD WILL FLY TO INDIANAPOLIS TUESDAY AND ADDRESS THE NATIONAL CONVENTION OF THE JAYCEES. HE SAID THE TRIP WOULD BE NON-POLITICAL AND ITS COSTS BORNE BY THE TAXPAYERS.

THE PRESIDENT HAS MADE ONLY ONE TRIP TO A REPUBLICAN STATE CONVENTION -- TO ONE IN MISSOURI ON JUNE 11. REAGAN'S FORCES WON A CLEAR-CUT VICTORY OVER THE FORD CAMP THERE.

06-21-76 14:53EDT

(ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA) -- REPUBLICAN PRESIDENTIAL CHALLENGER RONALD REAGAN AND FIRST LADY BETTY FORD WILL BE IN ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA TODAY TO ADDRESS THE STATE CONVENTION, WHICH CHOOSES 18 DELEGATES TONIGHT.

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(MINNESOTA)

ST. PAUL (UPI) -- RONALD REAGAN, FIRST LADY BETTY FORD AND PERENNIAL CANDIDATE HAROLD STASSEN WILL BID TOMORROW FOR THE MINNESOTA INDEPENDENT REPUBLICAN PARTY'S 18 AT-LARGE DELEGATES TO THE GOP NATIONAL CONVENTION.

THE PARTY'S STATE CONVENTION OPENED TODAY AND REAGAN, MRS. FORD AND STASSEN, THE "BOY" GOVERNOR OF NEARLY 40 YEARS AGO, WERE SCHEDULED TO ADDRESS THE DELEGATES TOMORROW.

PRESIDENT FORD IS THE FAVORITE TO PICK UP ALL OR MOST OF THE AT-LARGE DELEGATES TO BE ELECTED AT THE CONVENTION. HE ALREADY HAS A 17-7 EDGE IN DELEGATES PICKED AT THE DISTRICT LEVEL.

REAGAN BACKERS CLAIMED THE SUPPORT OF ABOUT 40 PER CENT OF THE CONVENTION DELEGATES AND WERE FIGHTING FOR A PROPORTIONATE SHARE OF THE REMAINING DELEGATES.

REAGAN FLIES TO ST. PAUL TONIGHT FROM A TRIP TO MISSISSIPPI. HE IS SCHEDULED TO SPEAK FIRST, FOLLOWED BY THE FIRST LADY AND STASSEN.

THE NEARLY 2,000 DELEGATES WILL INDICATE THEIR PREFERENCE FOR PRESIDENT IN A SPECIAL VOTE TOMORROW BEFORE THE NATIONAL DELEGATES ARE SELECTED.

THE FORD SLATE WAS GIVEN A GOOD CHANCE OF BEING APPROVED BECAUSE IT INCLUDES TOP PARTY OFFICERS AND INCUMBENT CONGRESSMEN BUT REAGAN BACKERS WERE HOPING THEIR CANDIDATE'S APPEARANCE WOULD SWING A FEW MORE DELEGATES HIS WAY.

THE CONVENTION IS EXPECTED TO ENDORSE DR. GERALD BREKKE, A PROFESSOR AT GUSTAVUS ADOLPHUS COLLEGE, TO RUN AGAINST SEN. HUBERT HUMPHREY, WHO IS SEEKING RE-ELECTION.

RICHARD FRANSON, A FORMER MINNEAPOLIS ALDERMAN AND A FORMER DEMOCRAT, DOES NOT SEEK THE ENDORSEMENT BUT PLANS TO SEEK THE REPUBLICAN SENATE NOMINATION IN THE SEPTEMBER PRIMARY.

UPI 06-24 05:02 PED