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The Ford family — Steve, Betty and Susan — at Kemper Arena for opening session. News photo by Jim Garrett

Daily News 8/17/76 pg. 4

Steve Shucks His Cowboy Boots Goes Conventional to Help Hunt Votes

By GENE SPAGNOLI
Special Correspondent of The News.

Kansas City, Aug. 16 — President Ford's youngest son, Steve, shucked his boots and jeans today and hit the dele-

given by Youth for Reagan and Young Americans for Freedom.

At the rally, Mike Reagan, 32, told the cheering crowd: "We're going to win. Ford hasn't been able to knock my dad out in all this time, and

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Candidates' Offspring Are Campaigning, Too, Each in His Own Way

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pg



By Michael Satchell

Washington Star Staff Writer

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"Good, good," said Jack.

"For lesbians and homosexuals and . . ."

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"I love him dearly and I want him to win. And I love my mom, too."

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There's no doubt about it. He wins the sex appeal contest hands down, for a lot of middle-aged women pushed and shoved to buss him and squeeze his hand and an awful lot of very pretty young girls overcame their shyness and introduced themselves.

Such are the advantages on the hustings when the kids campaign.

Steve Ford (right), one of President and Mrs. Ford's three sons, serves as host and introduces TV entertainer Tony Orlando at a luncheon and reception in Kansas City for young Ford workers.

Associated Press

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Steve: The Ford Family Sleeper Saddles Up for the Campaign

By Donnie Radcliffe

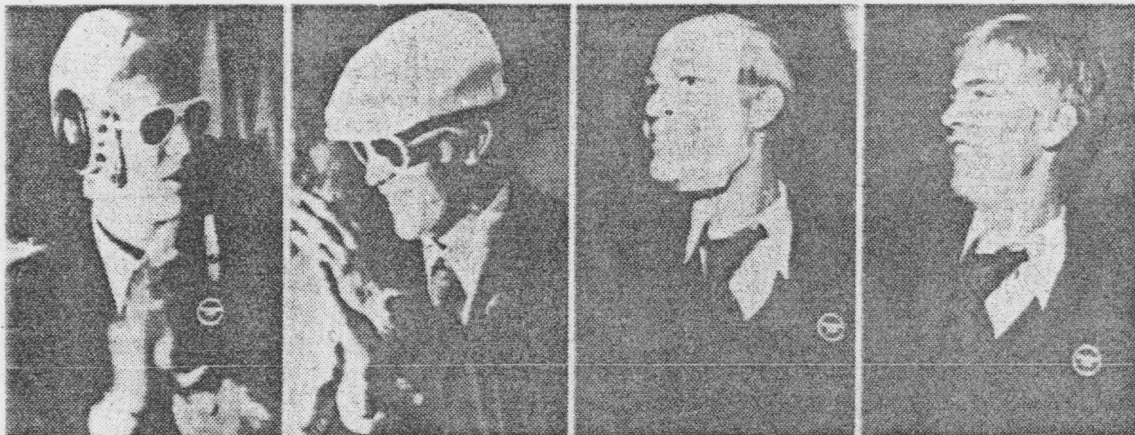
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REPUBLICAN Convention '76

*St. Louis Globe
Democrat
8/18/76
Pg. 1A*



Steve Ford wears hats and mask at disco dance in K.C.

—AP Wirephotos

Truman Library lures a Ford

By **LESLIE DAVIS**
Globe-Democrat Family Editor

KANSAS CITY — President Ford's youngest son stood in the middle of the replica of the White House Oval Office at the Truman Library, listening to the recorded voice of former President Harry S. Truman

concerned nothing of momentous importance, was evidence of the all-encompassing nature of presidential archives.

"One man's garbage is another man's occupation," said Warren Chrvall, the archivist, with the air of uttering an oft repeated aphorism

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KANSAS CITY (UPI) -- SCHEDULED FOR A POLITE TWO-MINUTE APPEARANCE MONDAY NIGHT, PRESIDENT FORD'S YOUNGEST SON STEVE TURNED IT INTO SOMETHING OF A POLITICAL COMING OUT PARTY.

STEVE HAD BEEN KNOWN CHIEFLY OUTSIDE HIS FAMILY FOR SHYNESS EVEN BIGGER THAN THE TEN GALLON WHITE STETSON HAT THE STUDENT COWBOY WEARS.

OLDER BROTHER JACK WAS THE FAMILY'S BUDDING POLITICIAN. YOUNGER SISTER SUSAN WORE THE GLAMOUR. STEVE ONLY RELUCTANTLY EMERGED FROM HIS CALIFORNIA COLLEGE AND RANCH STUDIES FOR CAMPAIGN LIFE WITH FATHER.

SO MONDAY IT WAS JACK WHO WAS DISPATCHED TO MEET DELEGATIONS AND IT WAS STEVE WHO WAS PICKED TO ESCORT SUSAN TO A DANCE FOR YOUNG FORD WORKERS.

STEVE HOPPED UP ONTO THE STAGE IN A THREE-PIECE BLUE SUIT AND A FUNNY THING HAPPENED. THE SHYNESS DISAPPEARED.

STEVE THREW OPEN HIS JACKET, SHOOK OFF HIS STETSON, POINTED A FINGER TO THE SPOTLIGHTS AND BEGAN DANCING AND IMPROVISING WORDS TO THE ELECTRONIC MUSIC.

"I'M ... GOING ... TO ... KANSAS CITY ..." HE BEGAN.

STANZAS LATER, HE ENDED, "MAKING FORD THE ONE!"

THE CROWD CHEERED, PICKED UP THE SONG AND DANCED TO STEVEN'S LEAD.

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"SPECTACULAR!" SAID SUSAN.

-0-

- 2 -

VAIL (UPI) -- AIDES TO PRESIDENT FORD WERE SO IMPRESSED BY THE PERFORMANCE OF THE PRESIDENT'S YOUNGEST SON, STEVE, AT THE GOP CONVENTION LAST WEEK, THEY HAVE DECIDED TO ENLIST HIM TO DRAW YOUTHFUL SUPPORT IN THE CAMPAIGN.

STEVE, 20, WHO JOINED HIS FAMILY IN VAIL SUNDAY BEFORE HEADING BACK TO SCHOOL IN CALIFORNIA, WILL BREAK AWAY FROM HIS STUDIES AT CALIFORNIA POLYTECHNICAL COLLEGE FOR A FEW WEEKS THIS FALL TO LURE YOUNG VOTERS.

- 2 -



A Ford Secret Weapon? Son Steve Has All the Moves

By GENE SPAGNOLI

Staff Correspondent of The News

Kansas City, Aug. 19 — President Ford's 20-year-old son Steve made his campaign debut at the Republican National Convention, and he was a smashing success. He may emerge as the party's secret weapon in the battle against the Democrats.

Steve, with his blond, movie-star looks and friendly easygoing manner, has shown an appeal that makes mothers melt and daughters

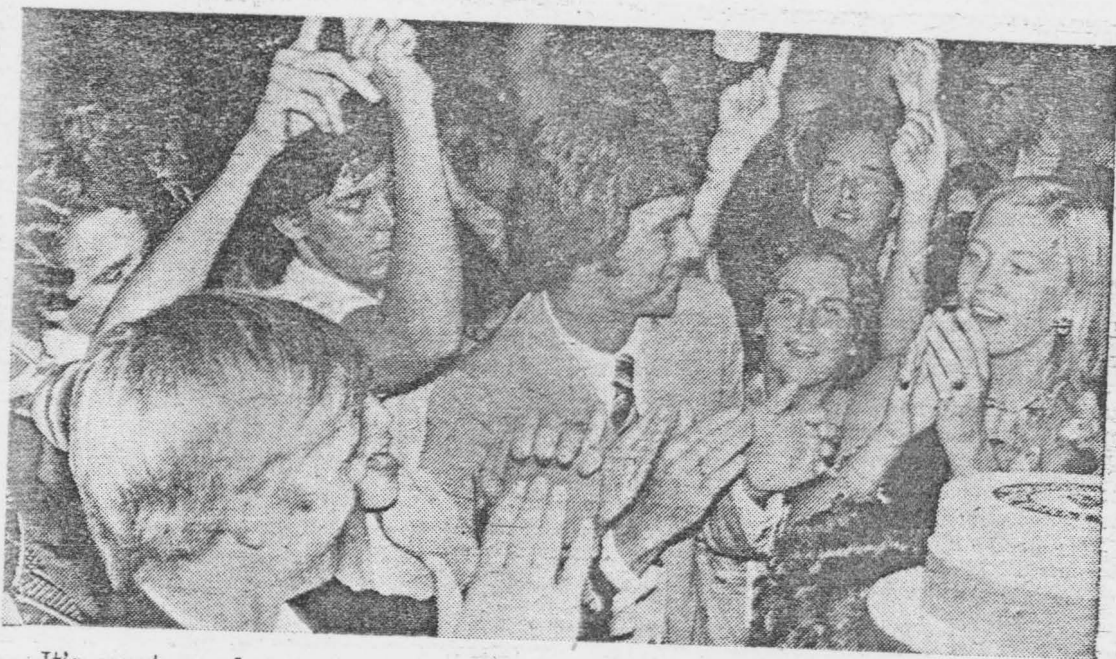
ner — he was so relaxed this morning that he was asleep when his dad announced to the world that he had picked Sen. Robert Dole as his running mate.

Sister Susan, 19, is either more unsure of herself or maybe a little more taken with herself.

The other day when she visited the Kansas delegation, she quickly walked through a line of young people who had been wilting in the hot Kansas sun for an hour waiting for her appearance and hardly waved to them. Steve and Jack always found time to pause a bit to show appreciation for supporters of their father.

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It's country-and-western time at the Trade Mart Disco, and getting very much into the spirit of things with the revelers is Steve's sister, Susan (right).



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In his brief remarks to the crowd, the President made no mention of Reagan or of the grueling round of primaries and state conventions leading to Wednesday night's climax.

But when he was introduced to the crowd, Mr. Ford's youngest son, Steve, a rodeo enthusiast, could not resist a jab at Reagan.

"We're not country gentleman cow-

The President left Andrews Air Force Base in Maryland this afternoon as a thunderstorm was closing in on the Washington area. Accompanying him on the flight were his wife, Betty, White House speech writers and presidential aides not already in Kansas City and Sen. Jacob Javits (R-N.Y.).

Javits, who had been in Philadelphia

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PARTY PEOPLE

Steve Ford Has A Better Idea

You know what's the newest thing around the smart set? Would you believe it is the oldest thing in aviation head-



Mingling with the Media in Kansas City

Star 8/16/76 Dec D.

The Ear

SHOULDN'T I KNOW YOU? . . . Really, Earwigs, you'd think Kansas City would be thrilled to death with all the political bigwigs in town, the locals are really most excited about the television types. The Charles Prices (he's in candy, she a Swanson of frozen goodie fame) tossed a bash in their 23-room duplex

everybody howled and Steve blushed severely. Son Jack has a Serious Job here: he signed up to write five columns for the Chicago Tribune, but missed the first deadline while trying to order a drink in his hotel. It's such a hard business to break into, D'Ears, and even harder to break out of.



Son Says Ford Needs More

By Ray Morgan
Kansas Correspondent

Steven Ford, son of President Gerald Ford, told Republican governors yesterday he would like to see more Republican governors elected to help his father in the next four years.

The tall, blond youth, who spoke at a brunch given by Kansas Gov. Robert F. Bennett, captivated the hearts of Kansas women delegates at the brunch as he stumped for his father on

White House staff, also visited with the delegates and governors.

Bennett said, "I want to tell you that these two men have really been of assistance to the governors in helping to get things resolved within the federal government. They have been a great help in giving the states a greater voice."

Bennett said the brunch, which also included Kansas delegates, alternates and their spouses, at the Carriage Club

Trade Mart Holiday Inn where Kansas Republicans are housed.

Mrs. Betty Hanicke of Westwood argued in favor of removing any reference to the Equal Rights Amendment in the Republican platform and in favor of including a proposal for a constitutional amendment against abortion.

Ralph Skoog, of Topeka, a Ford delegate, argued against supporting a plank that proposes a constitutional amendment on abortion, saying, "This

More G.O.P. Governors

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LIZ SMITH

The Editor Makes Book

THE GREATEST MISFORTUNE THAT EVER BEFELL MAN WAS THE INVENTION OF PRINTING, said Benjamin Disraeli. Well, I don't know—an awful lot of people are making a living because of it.

Take Jacqueline Onassis, the Viking book editor. Jackie really wanted her first important book as an editor to be the memoirs of that mystery man of Europe, Jean Monnet, the father of the Common Market. But Doubleday outbid Viking when they got the ante for Monnet up at \$80,000. So Jackie's first big editorial work on her own will be the b-i-g book on the costumes and clothes of Russia, now being hustled together by editor Onassis and her aides under the working title "Mother Russia."



THE WASHINGTON SQUARE DANCE: Loved the Ear columns noting that the District of Columbia's CBS Building should hasten to replace the C which had dropped from the building sign because they said that "the remaining logo is oh, so bad for the corporate image" . . . Betty Ford, who seems to be everybody's dream first lady, can find

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LIBRARY

Candidates' Offspring Are Campaigning, Too, Each in His Own Way

See bottom of next pg.



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Gag

Steve: The Ford Family Sleeper Saddles Up for the Campaign

By Donnie Radcliffe

KANSAS CITY—Ford campaign staffers could not have been happier this week over their newly found campaign weapon: Steve Ford, the youngest of the President's sons. "He's a sleeper" crowed one staffer Thursday

"He did a nice job," Rep. William A. Steiger of Wisconsin's 6th congressional district, said later. "He said he had worked on a dairy farm, that he knew agriculture and he understood some of the problems."

And while Wisconsin was regarded as a "safe" state for Gerald Ford

Force party going on next door. His mother had planned to come, he told several hundred pro-ERA women delegates, but she was back at the hotel lobbying in their behalf by entertaining borderline delegates who needed some arm-twisting.

Until now Steve Ford has by

Grand Rapids 5/19/76

Our Man in Kansas City



Maury DeJonge

Young Steve Ford, 20, and singer Tony Orlando, who became famous overnight with a song about a "Yellow Ribbon," really can turn on a reception.

Both men made appearances in the suite of Mr. and Mrs. Peter Secchia Tuesday evening, and it was a tossup as to who drew the most attention.

Secchia, Grand Rapids business executive and close friend of the First Family, held a reception that included the two celebrities, President Gerald R. Ford's two brothers Thomas G. and James, and their wives; David Kennerly, official photographer of the President; William Seidman, assistant to the President for economic affairs, his wife Sally, and others.

Steven and Tony sat still briefly for an interview in a spare bedroom of the Secchia suite, quite an assignment as the two handsome young men politely fought their way through a crowd of admiring young women—and some who weren't all that young.

Steve, a student at California Polytechnical Institute in Pomona, Calif., said the people at the Republican National Convention "have been great."

Steve said he plans to continue working toward his father's election, even though he will begin his sophomore year in college in September.

The tall, blond youth said he feels the campaign "is right where it should be at this time. We don't want to start too early."

When November comes, Steve said, he is certain his father will finish on top over Democratic nominee Jimmy Carter.

Both Steve and Tony have been working with about 1,500 Presidentials, young persons performing chores at the convention. Tony entertained the young people for about 45 minutes with his singing. Steve gave a brief talk.

Tony, sitting on a corner of the bed talking with Secchia, said all his life he has been a Democrat. What will he do for the Ford campaign?

"I intend to do everything they want me to do, including getting the coffee for the President if I have to," he said.

What caused him to switch parties? The President's humanity," he replied.

Orlando was a dinner guest of the President and his family Monday night in Ford's suite on the 18th floor of the Crown Center Hotel.

Before leaving the reception, Steve autographed bits of paper for the guests, and Tony gave some of the women quick kisses.

This, too, is part of a presidential campaign.

Thirteen-year-old Paula Putthoff, resident of Kansas City, proved herself a heroine as far as the sister-in-law of President Ford is concerned.

