

**The original documents are located in Box 39, folder “Ford, Betty - Nessen, Ron -  
"Saturday Night Live"” of the Sheila Weidenfeld Files at the Gerald R. Ford  
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NEW YORK (AP) -- PRESIDENT FORD'S PRESS SECRETARY, RON NESSEN, SAYS HE'LL CROSS A PICKET LINE TO REHEARSE AS HOST OF THE NATIONAL BROADCASTING CO.'S ''SATURDAY NIGHT'' SHOW.

OFFICIALS OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF BROADCAST EMPLOYEES AND TECHNICIANS, REPRESENTING 1,700 WRITERS AND TECHNICIANS WHO STRUCK NBC IN SIX CITIES ON APRIL 1, SAID WEDNESDAY THAT THEY WIRED THE WHITE HOUSE ASKING NESSEN NOT TO CROSS THE LINE.

A WHITE HOUSE SPOKESMAN SAID LATER THE PLEA HAD NOT REACHED NESSEN, WHO WAS DETAINED BY OTHER COMMITMENTS AND WAS UNABLE TO ATTEND A LATE EVENING REHEARSAL OF THE PROGRAM HERE.

A SPOKESMAN FOR NBC SAID NESSEN WAS EXPECTED TO BE ON HAND TONIGHT AND FRIDAY TO REHEARSE FOR THE LIVE 90-MINUTE SHOW, WHICH WILL BE BROADCAST AT 11:30 P.M. SATURDAY NIGHT.

FIRST LADY BETTY FORD IGNORED A NABET PLEA AND APPEARED ON AN NBC ''WOMEN OF THE YEAR AWARDS'' SPECIAL LAST THURSDAY AFTER ENTERING A DOOR WHICH A JUDGE HAD ORDERED CLEARED OF PICKETS.

ARTHUR KENT, PRESIDENT OF LOCAL 11 WHICH REPRESENTS HALF OF THE 1,700 NABET EMPLOYEES OF NBC, SAID, ''UNFORTUNATELY, AN ANTIUNION STANCE SEEMS TO BE DEVELOPING AT THE WHITE HOUSE.''

04-10-76 09:38EST

Notes on People

*Princess Anne Hurt  
As Horse Stumbles*

Thrown by her horse in a competition yesterday, Princess Anne suffered a cracked vertebra and spent the night in a Dorset hospital for observation.

Candlewick, a 7-year-old owned by Queen Elizabeth II,

crack alluding to their comatose daughter, the Quinlans' lawyer confirmed in Landing, N.J. yesterday. Miss MacLaine's description of New York as "the Karen Ann Quinlan of American cities"

# RON AND CHEVY YOCK IT UP

Two months ago press secretary Ron Nessen decided to satisfy "a Walter Mittyish complex of mine" and appear as the guest host on NBC's raucous—and sometimes raunchy—variety show "Saturday Night."

Nessen proved he could even appear and get the President dead-end to a million.

Nessen's show's made a Preside the boss Nessen stapled ball with veto, it's line, Cl that's all.

Not a left laugh you'd e stripper also feel find the (one en a sketch watchin pling. Another aide worried that while Nessen's performance would hardly cause the President to lose this weekend's Texas primary, it wouldn't



Owen Franken

Nessen and Chase in Presidential lampoon, First Mama calls a buddy

Susan T. McElhinney—Newsweek

particular help him in a string of upcoming primaries in conservative Southern states. First reports also portrayed the President as upset, but Ford himself announced otherwise: "You have to expect some sharp barbs in a political campaign."

**Flap:** Down in Texas, Betty Ford kept on 'truckin' through all the flap. "You got First Mania," she crackled into her new citizens-band radio during a motorcade through San Antonio, and she warned fellow CB freaks that she had "a lot of smokies on my front door" (police cars in front of her). The First Lady picked up the radio as a birthday present from daughter Susan and her handle (code name) from comic Flip Wilson, rejecting the matronly, unhip call name, Apple Betty. "This is First Mama KUY-9532. Catch ya on the flip [return trip]," she signed off as she headed for the airport.



Rebister N.Y.

Democrat and Chro

4/22/76

## News Makers

### 'TV show distasteful'

First Lady Betty Ford said yesterday that some of the skits seen on NBC's "Saturday Night" television program last weekend were "distasteful."

The late night show was introduced by President Ford via a pretaped film clip. His press secretary, Ron Nessen, was master of ceremonies. In an airport news conference, Mrs. Ford commented, "I must say I was a little disappointed in some of the skits. I thought they were a little distasteful... and so did the President. It was something we would not have had a part in. Although he was not involved in it, it looked like he was endorsing the 'Saturday

Judging from his performance as guest host of TV's irreverent, ploddingly skittish variety show, NBC's *Saturday Night*, Presidential Press Secretary Ron

Nessen as a comedian were asked future does secretary Nessen—appeared in ster Chevy ty is a la boss. N Chase in pling his golf ball bling th football sen was lar lau against ' sult of White F nerly, P on the s wooden

The viewers judgment to chara but forg reported

erstwhile star himself, Nessen opined that discussing the show was "not something grown men should be doing."

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Republican poor chose ttable as re- or the

*Time*

Armed with her new (nickname) and her newest toy, Citizen's Band radio, First La Ford went to Texas last week o paign trip for Husband Jerry. First Mama. There's a lot of Sm my front door," said Betty,