

observation that "you're much too weird to bust."

Nobody's greatest triumph so far, Gravy said, was his (her?) performance at the first televised presidential debate, ostensibly featuring Gerald Ford and Jimmy Carter.

"We asked the League of Women Voters for equal time, but they wouldn't give it to us," Gravy said. "So Nobody seized the time." The result was a 20-minute silent stretch during which Nobody spoke.

Nobody is paying for the current cross-country campaign swing, which will wind up with an outdoor rally near the White House Oct. 27 and a victory party in New York's Washington Square Nov. 2. Gravy and his companions are financing their travels with the sale of buttons and bumper stickers, which were a hot item on the UT campus this week.

"We have about a hundred Nobody jokes," Gravy said. "We can do that all day . . . When people are able to laugh at something, their defenses go down and they're able to consider a concept. We'd like to place in the consciousness the idea that maybe we don't need these offices.

"Congress could run the country," Gravy continued. "It would certainly be more democratic. Rather than one person making a decision and getting us into Vietnam, they'd all have to do it."

Gravy has also been associated with the presidential campaigns of a pig ("Pigasus") and a rock. The rock's running mate was a

dinner roll, giving rise to the immortal slogan "Rock and Roll Forever!"

His last serious foray into politics was in 1964, when Gravy and the Committee "were afraid that Barry Goldwater was going to blow up the world," he said.

"We campaigned hard for Lyndon Johnson," Gravy said. "We really thought he was the Great White Hope.

"Them he managed to kill more people than anybody else in a shorter time."

So now he's backing Nobody, and predicts that, if Nobody wins, "nothing will come of it." The UT Nobody rally, which kicks off at noon on the East Mall, will feature performances by three dogs and a chicken who travel with the Nobody campaign, as well as music played on banjos, washboards and spoons.

A local rock group, the Uranium Savages, will also perform. The group was selected "because we heard they're really outrageous," Gravy said.

Gravy hopes the rally will be a success, but he says nothing can match the boost Jimmy Carter has given to Nobody's chances. At a Carter rally in San Francisco Gravy circulated some of Nobody's campaign literature. Later, when Carter spoke, he said "I think Nobody has all the answers."

"The crowd went wild," Gravy said. "Carter turned around and said 'what did I say?' Now he's careful to say no one instead of Nobody."

