

A Presidential Candidate Who Has Nothing to Say

By John Sherwood

Washington Star Staff Writer

Nobody will say nothing here at tomorrow's "Nobody for President" rally, promises the rally organizer, who would rather say nothing more about it, except that he hopes somebody comes to hear nobody say nothing.

Wavy Gravy, a current nobody himself who is the nonentity behind this non-event, is nobody's fool when he adds that his non-existent non-candidate promises nothing for nobody and stands for nothing at no time nowhere no way. After all, nobody's perfect.

Mr. Gravy has boogied to us, of course, from California, where he once reigned as Hugh Romney, king of the counter-culture in the early 1960s. Now pushing Nobody for President, he was delighted to witness Jimmy Carter himself saying, out of the blue one day, "Nobody has all the answers."

GRAVY AND HIS 12 Berkley associates, known collectively as The Hog Farm, went berserk. Carter, confused, turned around and whis-

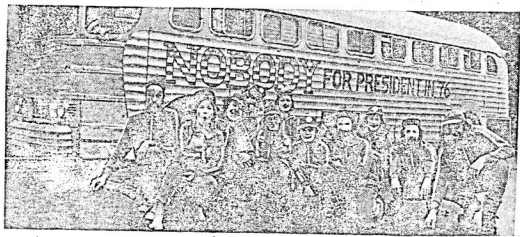
pered. "What did I say?" Forget it, Jimbo, even the Teamsters have come out for nobody.

The highlight of tomorrow's noon rally at the Sylvan Theater on the Washington Monument grounds will be the 1 p.m. arrival of nobody in the empty back seat of a Cadillac El Dorado convertible. There will be music, however, and campaign buttons will be sold — the Hog Farmers have financial backing from nobody.

Gravy's gravy train — populated with Hog Farm residents who dress in warm-up track suits and wear clown makeup, rubber noses and beanie propeller hats — is a 1947 former Greyhound bus called "Nobody One" and labeled "NOBODY FOR PRESIDENT IN '76."

Why dress like clowns? "Because nobody hits a clown," explains the leader. "Wait a minute! I mean that nobody doesn't hit a clown. It gets tricky." He has at least a hundred nobody jokes.

ALSO TRAVELING in nobody's contingent are one child, three dogs,



—Washington Star

The Hog Farmers are here in their clown makeup and warm-up suits to push nobody for president.

two chickens and two street startlings who were rescued yesterday on Virginia Avenue SE by one of nobody's nobodies.

"I'm sorry," explains Gravy, who insists that nobody is in charge, "but there will be no advance text and no interviews will be granted to no one, since nobody has nothing to say to no one. No way!"

Previous Nobody-for-President rallies have been held in California, New Mexico and Texas in an attempt to put some humor into an otherwise humorless presidential campaign.

Seriously, folks, "more than 40 percent of the eligible voters in the last election voted for nobody," says Gravy, who will revert back to being California counter-culture comedian

Hugh Romney after he votes for nobody next Tuesday.

At the rally, there will be shouted questions to be answered by shouting back Nobody's name. A sampling:

Q: Who will lower your taxes?

A: NOBODY!

Q: Who will feed the poor?

A: NOBODY!

And so forth, and so on.