

A Grand Old Party

Besides the central business at hand, last w generated its share of high jinks, ironies and mine

Tenry Kissinger may be Jerry Ford's I favorite Secretary of State—but he was hardly a favorite of the Ford staff last week. When friends arranged an exclusive pre-convention birthday party for the former President, Ford asked that Kissinger be invited. Kissinger said he'd be delighted-but only if Ford staffers would arrange for some corporate jet to fly him from New York to Detroit for free. Livid, Ford's men told Kissinger to forget it. But Kissinger made it to the party-after lining up h own transportation.

At a Youth for Reagan rally in Ford Auditorium, former can George Bush, Robert Dole, John Cor. and Ben Fernandez answered question about their losing Presidential campaign. Connally was questioned for the umpteenth time about spending \$10 million to win

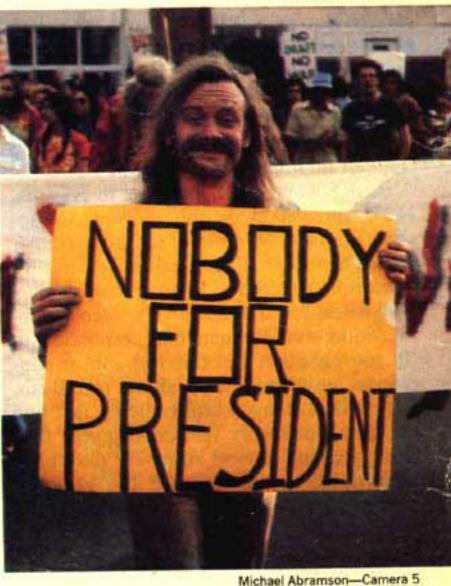
only one delegate. Ferna he just couldn't raise enou even with the likes of P' Connally whipped or fered Fernandez ?

At brea1 skies ab rie g L.

whi, Joted. Bu ose. Walls tum re derailed. Small airport were flipped 1 50-foot Detroit Edison g 40,000-volt cables were ground; two people were elecby fallen wires. In the Renaissance on the 35th floor of the Renaissance ater, journalists at an editorial meeting were dismayed to find their breakfast table

NATIONAL AFFAIRS





Michael Abramson-Camera 5

moving-and the building swaying. At the tel, George Bush was A :--s Michigan delegates ddenly went out. "What tornado?" Bush snapped. ere produced, and Bush's

day morning, Michigan state vered that a black 1980 Lincoln earing license plates MSG 000-Iliam G. Milliken's official lim--had been stolen from a hotel where vernor was staying with the state ation. Milliken had to make do with 79 Oldsmobile for three days until poe recovered the car-minus the license lates, two police radios, two bulletproof vests, two walkie-talkies and one riot gun.

With his campaign faltering badly last spring, George Bush borrowed a line from Washington Bullets coach Dick Motta and told his traveling press corps, "In spite of what you mournful pundits say, the opera ain't over until the fat lady sings." Last week the press corps responded with a