



UPI Telephoto

KENNETH MATTINGLY AND WIFE ZILPHIA  
A sign in their store window shows how folks feel

## He'll Speak There

# Town That Loves Nixon

### Hyden, Ky.

Richard Nixon is coming out of seclusion to make a speech in this small Appalachia coal community.

Hyden will play host on Sunday when the former President dedicates a recreation complex named after him in one of his rare public appearances — and his first public address since resigning over the Watergate scandal four years ago.

### Why Hyden?

"President Nixon is a human being, like all the rest of us, and he likes to be among friends," said C. Allen Muncy, judge-executive of Leslie county.

Indeed, Nixon is as popular now as he ever was in this staunchly Republican enclave in the mountains of southeastern Kentucky.

When county officials decided to name their new \$2.6 million recreation complex for the ex-chief executive, they invited him to attend the dedication ceremonies this weekend. He accepted.

"In my letter I told him exactly how he felt, and he knows we mean what we say. He'll be welcome by the entire population (11,600) of the county," said Muncy.

Although the former president is scheduled to arrive tomorrow from San Clemente, the only firm event on his Hyden schedule is an address on Sunday afternoon in the 4000-seat gymnasium of the new recreation complex.

However, if he's interested, there will be plenty to occupy his time here, including square-dancing in the streets and "Game Day" on Sunday featuring shooting matches and contests in pie-eating, horseshoes, apple-peeling and nail-driving.

"We'll keep him busy just shaking hands," said Muncy.

Reuters