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Roone Arledge, who plans to use as many cameras as he would for a football game, and now Mr. Arledge has chosen as ringside announcer none other than the always self-effacing Howard Cosell, one of the network's best-known sports personalities. In commenting on his assignment Mr. Cosell was typically Cosellian: "A star of Frank Sinatra's phenomenal appeal and gigantic talents deserved only the very best. Fortunately, I was available."

For the last year Ann Buchwald, wife of the columnist Art Buchwald, has been a Washington-based partner in one of Hollywood's top literary and talent agents, Irving Lazar, but she said yesterday she must reluctantly end her partnership. It's all because Mr. Lazar has agreed to try selling the memoirs of Richard M. Nixon, reportedly for more than \$2-million. Referring to her husband, who has gotten lots of column mileage out of Watergate and the former President's problems, Mrs. Buchwald said: "His principles are very important. He just thought, and I agree with him, that his public speaking and his columns kind of made it a conflict of principle for him to be dealing in political satire and his wife . . ." Mrs. Buchwald's comment trailed off for a moment, and then she added: "It's just strange that I would be married to one of the few political satirists in the coun-

Notes on People

try. It's ironic. In fact, it's pretty good satire."

Students at the Polytechnic Institute of New York will present today their first annual Sir Isaac Newton Award for Defying Gravity to Philippe Petit, the young Frenchman who last month cavorted on a tightrope strung between the towers of the World Trade Center. At the award ceremonies Mr. Petit will discuss with engineering students some of the engineering aspects of rigging tightropes for "safe" walking.

Bill Moyers will begin writing a monthly column for Newsweek magazine, effective the issue of Sept. 23, on newsstands next Monday. Mr. Moyers, former press secretary to the late President Lyndon B. Johnson, was former publisher of Newsday and most recently host of a weekly program on public television. He will write in the last-page space once occupied weekly by the column of the late Stewart Alsop. Since Mr. Moyers's decision to leave television, it had been bruited about that he would be an executive of The Washington Star-News, a controlling interest in which may be acquired by Mr. Moyers's fellow Texan Joe L. Allbritton. Newsweek is owned by the rival Washington Post Company.