

Associated Press

MACKINAC ISLAND, Mich. — The Republican National Committee chairwoman said yesterday she expects the party to ignore Richard Nixon during the campaign next year.

"I see him as a former President, retired, and I would not anticipate he will have a role in the 1976 convention," said Mary Louise Smith.

"I frankly don't see anyone who would want him to campaign for them. As to developing a party line on Richard Nixon, I don't think there will be one," she said.

Michigan Gov. William Millikan said President Ford will have "a tough race" in Michigan in next year's presidential election, but will beat any Democratic candidate.

The main issue of the 1976 campaign will be the economy, he said.

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