

Notes on People by Laurie Johnston

At the annual Honker Hunt in Alturas, Calif., near the Oregon border, Maurice H. Stans was right on target when, as one of 70 weekend competitors, he hit three geese with the allotted three shots. But he sprayed the landscape with generalities when asked about future political plans. The former Secretary of Commerce who was chairman of the Nixon finance committee, was acquitted of perjury, conspiracy and obstruction of justice but pleaded guilty to five other campaign-violation counts. He said he was "happy that's all over" and would "sit it out for awhile." Now a part-time business consultant in California and Arizona, Mr. Stans said he judged from "occasional talks" that Richard M. Nixon was in good health and "state of mind." "I'm just been playing it all low-key," Mr. Stans said. "I'm not talking—just watching."