

Huckabee, McCain in dead heat in S.C.

by UPI

COLUMBIA, S.C. -- Undecided voters could decide the fate of Republican presidential hopefuls John McCain and Mike Huckabee in Saturday's South Carolina GOP primary, a poll said. Arizona Sen. McCain and Mike Huckabee, the former Arizona governor, are virtually tied in the McClatchy-MSNBC poll, The (Columbia, S.C.) State reported Friday. McCain held a 27 percent to 25 percent lead over Huckabee. The poll also showed a struggle for third between former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney and former Tennessee Sen. Fred Thompson, with 15 percent and 13 percent, respectively. However, nearly one in 10 likely voters said they were undecided, and about a third of respondents who expressed a preference said they could change their minds before leaving the voting booth, the newspaper said. The biggest bloc of undecided voters identified themselves as evangelical Christians. The Mason-Dixon telephone poll of 400 likely Republican primary voters in South Carolina was conducted Monday through Wednesday. The margin of error was plus or minus 5 percentage points.

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