

## Romney: McCain not 'inevitable' nominee

by UPI

NEW YORK - Republican Mitt Romney Tuesday said it isn't inevitable that John McCain will win the GOP presidential nomination. "Senator McCain's a fine fellow, national hero, but his positions on the keystone issues of his 25 years are positions that are more like Democrats than like those of Republicans," Romney said in an interview on Fox News' "Fox and Friends." Romney, a former Massachusetts governor, noted of the eight Republican contests so far, he has won four, the Arizona senator, three, and former Arkansas Gov. Mike Huckabee, one. "I think that the right course for a winning campaign against someone like Barack Obama is going to have to be somebody who can speak with energy and passion about the future of America, not another senator ...," said Romney, who slammed McCain for alleged campaign falsehoods. "He's so inaccurate. He's so making up facts that it's really quite extraordinary," Romney said in an interview on CBS' "The Early Show." Romney denied he ran \$10 million in attack ads in California, saying all his ads were positive and cost only \$500,000. "Here I am responding to all the attacks of Senator McCain. It's funny how he says that I'm attacking him, but frankly, if you listen carefully, it's the other way around, isn't it?" Romney asked. Romney said there is no one state that is key to his quest but admitted he'd like to get as many delegates from California where the delegates are apportioned by congressional district. Though observers have given McCain, R-Ariz., the advantage in the Republican presidential sweepstakes, Romney maintained McCain isn't the "inevitable" nominee. "If he were inevitable, he wouldn't be saying the things about me he's saying," Romney said. "He's obviously very concerned."

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