

## Bloomberg will not run for president

*by UPI*

NEW YORK -- New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg says he won't run for president but could be persuaded to give his stamp of approval to the candidate with the right stuff. Bloomberg, writing in an Op-Ed piece in the Thursday edition of The New York Times, said "I am not -- and will not be -- a candidate for president." But Bloomberg went on to say he believes the United States needs to take a non-partisan approach to its problems and that an independent candidate could win the presidency. "And while I have always said I am not running for president, the race is too important to sit on the sidelines, and so I have changed my mind in one area," he said. "If a candidate takes an independent, nonpartisan approach -- and embraces practical solutions that challenge party orthodoxy -- I'll join others in helping that candidate win the White House."

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