

## Huckabee exits presidential race

*by UPI*

IRVING, Texas - Former Arkansas Gov. Mike Huckabee ended his bid for the Republican presidential nomination Tuesday after front-runner John McCain won the needed delegates. After winning Tuesday in Vermont, Ohio, Rhode Island and Texas, McCain surpassed the number of delegates needed to clinch his party's nomination. The Arizona senator will reportedly meet with U.S. President George W. Bush on Wednesday. In his concession speech, Huckabee said he called McCain to offer the senator his support. "I will do everything possible to unite our party," Huckabee said in Irving, Texas, noting that McCain "has run an honorable campaign, because he's an honorable man." Huckabee won a total of 247 delegates by winning the nominating contests in Tennessee, Alabama, Arkansas and Georgia, among other states. McCain has won 1,205 delegates, more than the 1,191 delegates needed to clinch the GOP nomination, CNN reported.

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