

Romney's fortune keeps him in funds

by UPI

WASHINGTON - Former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney leads the Republican fundraising pack thanks to his personal fortune. Rudolph Giuliani, the former mayor of New York, was slightly ahead of Romney in donations in the third quarter, USA Today reported. But Romney, whose net worth is estimated at \$190 million to \$250 million, loaned his campaign \$8.5 million during the quarter, financial reports released Thursday said. Romney is running fourth in the polls, behind Giuliani, U.S. Sen. John McCain of Arizona and former Sen. Fred Thompson of Tennessee. On the Democratic side, Sen. Barack Obama of Illinois appears to have inherited more of Howard Dean's supporters from the 2004 race. The "Deaniacs," who made thousands of small contributions over the Internet, helped give the former Vermont governor a lead in the polls that evaporated quickly in the primaries. In the first half of 2007, Obama received contributions of at least \$200 from 634 former Dean contributors, The Hill reported. Sen. Hillary Clinton of New York got 413 and former Sen. John Edwards of North Carolina 371.

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