

# campaign '80

## Campaign in South Carolina heats up among candidates

By JACK KNEECE

United Press International  
COLUMBIA, S.C. — George Bush jogged the campus walkways at the University of South Carolina. Ronald Reagan criss-crossed the streets speaking to supporters. At 5 p.m., John Connally trudged in the snow to talk to textile workers.

From the rolling hills of the upper Piedmont to the antebellum plantation country of the coastal plain, Republican presidential candidates are feverishly courting South Carolina. Eight candidates are running in South Carolina's first GOP presidential primary Saturday. At stake are 25 delegates — and momentum leading to primaries three days later in Georgia, Florida and Alabama.

Some natives feel the state has not received this kind of national attention since Citadel cadets fired on Sumter and touched off the Civil War. And that is exactly how GOP officials planned it.

On Saturday, voters will name their Republican choice in a non-binding primary in which the state-wide winner will get seven delegates and the winner of each congressional district will get three.

Recent polls show Reagan with a substantial lead. Reagan finished with almost 50 percent in a seven-week contest in New Hampshire last week, and his state chairman, Rep. Carroll Campbell, R-S.C., feels if he can carry South Carolina, he will have the largest number of delegates in the commission, momentum all the way to the nomination in Detroit in July.

Campbell, a popular freshman congressman, is expected to help Reagan take the Spartanburg-Anderson textile corridor.

Gay Suber, Connally's chief strategist, said the former Texas gov-

ernor will do well in the coastal and Piedmont area, but that Bush and Reagan probably will beat him in the urban areas around Columbia.

For Connally, who has done poorly in previous tests, a bad loss in South Carolina could doom his presidential dreams.

As of last week, Reagan had spent \$300,000 of a planned \$387,000 and Connally had spent \$265,000 of an expected \$325,000.

Although his opponents enjoy saying South Carolina is do or die for Connally, who finished fourth in Iowa and fifth in New Hampshire, Suber said the former Texas governor is in the race to stay.

"He has the staying power and the money," said Suber. "The other candidates are running out of money."

Two Popular South Carolina Republicans, Sen. Strom Thurmond and former Gov. James Edwards, have been stumping with Connally.

"He's a good fellow and he'll make a good president," Thurmond tells the faithful.

Harry Dent, co-chairman of Bush's state steering committee, is boosting Bush in television ads, citing his "heroism in the war" and his experience as director of the CIA. Bush plans to spend about \$200,000.

The contest to date has been more like a free-swinging, old fashioned South Carolina gubernatorial slugfest than a presidential primary. It has come complete with mud-slinging, and charges and counter-charges of dirty tricks.

Early in the campaign, a leaked Bush staff memo alleged Connally was soft on gay rights. Then a Bush staffer charged Connally had paid \$76,000 to black leaders for 100,000 black votes.

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## Baker withdraws from race after poor Mass. showing

United Press International  
WASHINGTON — Senate Republican leader Howard Baker, unable to make a credible showing in early primaries, withdrew Wednesday as a candidate for the Republican presidential nomination.

Baker, accompanied by his wife, and daughter, Cynthia, told reporters in his Capitol office, "it is clear the campaign is not going

After coming in a poor fourth in Massachusetts and Vermont Tuesday, apparently losing much of his presumed support to liberal Rep. John Anderson of Illinois, Baker said he would not "live or die on the question of whether I become president. Frankly, I don't think that's in the cards right now."

He said he would return to his role as GOP Senate leader and campaign for Republican senatorial candidates.

## Baker backers unsure

United Press International  
LITTLE ROCK — Arkansas delegates cast adrift by Sen. Howard Baker's withdrawal from the presidential race Wednesday said they probably would go to the GOP convention uncommitted to any candidate, although Rep. John Anderson, R-Ill., may have picked up a supporter.

Elijah Coleman of Little Rock, an uncommitted delegate who had said he was leaning to Baker, said Wednesday he would have to "find out a lot more about Mr. Anderson"

before he makes up his mind.

But, he said, "I'm extremely optimistic on his stated philosophies about the economy, inflation, minorities and taxes."

Baker picked up four delegates in the Arkansas caucuses, and at least two uncommitted delegates were known to be leaning toward him. He came in second behind Ronald Reagan with seven delegates, making Arkansas Baker's most successful venture in his campaign.

Baker delegate Odell Pollard of Benton said he was stunned to hear

Baker had dropped out of the race.

"I don't think that Baker was expected to do well in Massachusetts or Vermont," he said. "I think he should have waited until we got to the Southern primaries."

Phil McClendon of Crossett, also committed to Baker, said he had not expected the decision this soon, but he was "not tremendously surprised" Baker had to drop out.

Committed Arkansas delegates are not bound to vote for their candidate on any ballot at the national convention.

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