OCT 2 5 1974

Backs Off On Rocky

Washington

Senator Barry M. Goldwater (Rep-Ariz.), the symbolic leader of the Republican party's conservative wing, has backed away from his unequivocal support of Nelson A. Rockefeller's vice presidential nomination and is reported now to be undecided.

Goldwater. confirming a change of heart that has been rumored for several weeks, said in reply to a question Wednesday night that he had told President Ford that he is no longer bound by his original statement of support for Rockefeller.

Speaking at Arizona State University, Goldwater went on to say: "The whole subject is not whether he has millions of dollars. It's whether or not he's used these millions of dollars to buy power. I think that's wrong."

The senator could not be reached in Arizona yesterday to amplify his statement.

In August, when Rockefeller was announced as the President's choice, Goldwater indicated that he would accept him.

New York Times