

# Wallace Sapping GOP Strength

By George Gallup

Princeton, N.J.

Governor George Wallace of Alabama poses an even greater threat to the Republican party in 1976 than he does to the Democratic party.

The latest nationwide trial heat showed Wallace as a third-party candidate drawing more votes away from President Gerald Ford than from Senator Edward Kennedy, giving Kennedy the edge in a three-way contest.

Here are the findings, based on registered voters:

Kennedy	39%
Ford	34
Wallace	19
Undecided-other	8

When Wallace is excluded from this test, Kennedy gains six points and Mr. Ford picks up ten points, as seen in the table below:

Kennedy	45%
Ford	44
Undecided-other	11

Mr. Ford and Kennedy were used in this test of Wallace's potential strength because Mr. Ford is currently the No. 1 nomination choice of Republican voters nationwide, while Kennedy, despite his no-candidate status, is the top choice of Democrats. Wallace also scores well with Democrats. When Kennedy is not included in tests of nomination strength, Wallace emerges on top.

Present indications are that Wallace will be in a position — for the third presidential race in row — to ex-

ercise a profound effect on the vote given the major party candidates.

While most political observers believe Wallace has little chance of winning the Democratic nomination in 1976, many feel he may be able to win enough delegates in the primaries to have a powerful voice in the selection of the Democratic nominee.

Wallace's forced withdrawal from the presidential race in 1972, caused by the assassination attempt that left him confined to a wheelchair, increased President Nixon's vote margin.

In the first trial heat taken after both major party conventions in that year, Mr. Nixon received 46 per cent of the vote, compared to 32 per cent for Senator George McGovern, 18 per cent for Wallace and four per cent undecided. When the vote was limited to Mr. Nixon and McGovern, Mr. Nixon received 56 per cent of the vote, compared to 37 per cent for McGovern and seven per cent undecided.

In 1968, Wallace's third-party candidacy drew votes away from both Mr. Nixon and Senator Hubert Humphrey, with the result that the 1968 election was one of the closest in history.

The trial heat results today are based on interviews with 1626 persons, 18 and

## Rhodes Waits For Demo Move On Wallace

Rockford, Ill.

House minority leader John Rhodes (Rep-Ariz.), said the way in which Alabama Governor George Wallace is denied the Democratic presidential nomination will be "the most interesting exercise of the year."

Rhodes was among speakers at a \$100-a-plate dinner Saturday night honoring Representative John Anderson (Rep-Ill.), for his 15 years of service in Congress.

"Wallace probably is in a position now to come up with more pledged delegates to the Democratic convention than any other one candidate," Rhodes said.

"The manner in which the Democratic party decides to do a backflip and turn down Wallace as their candidate will be the most interesting exercise of the year."

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older, in more than 300 scientifically selected localities during the period May 30 through June 2.

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## Slides Kill 10

Tokyo

Mudslides brought on by torrential summer rains killed ten persons in Western Japan yesterday.

United Press