Poll finds Edwards leads Duke in governor's race

(AP) - A new poll shows Edwin NATIONAL Edwards leads

Louisiana's hotly contested governor's race, but an analyst said Wednesday that a large number of undecided voters still could swing Saturday's runoff in favor of David Duke.

Edwards, a Democrat seeking an unprecedented tourth term, spent Wednesday campaigning in the New Orleans area. Duke, a Republican and former Ku Lafayette area in the south-central part of the state.

A telephone poll conducted last Wednesday through Sunday by the University of New Orleans Research Center showed that 52 percent of respondents favored Edwards and 26 percent supported Duke. Twenty-two percent were undecided.

Edwards still led by 46 percent to 40 percent after the survey was adjusted for an expectwho don't want to admit they support Duke, pollster Susan Howell said.

"However, there was a week to go in this race when we completed the poll, and because of the emotion involved in this campaign, that's an eternity," she said. The adjusted survey found 14 percent undecided.

Howell, a political science professor, said the revised figures changed upward for Duke when he was given the votes of those who characterized him as "inspiring" or "really cares about people like me."

The university surveyed 701

registered voters. The poll had a margin for error of plus or minus 3.6 percentage points.

Duke said he expects strong support from undecided voters come Saturday

"There's a lot of undecided vote out there. That's mine. I think almost all of it is mine," Duke said before an appearance in Lafayette. "I think we'll win by a whisker."

A New Orleans newspaper, meanwhile, reported Wednesday that Duke espoused anti-Semitic views in a 1990 interview published in an Edinburgh, Scotland, newspaper called Scotland on Sunday The Times-Picayune said Duke told an interviewer that Jews are a plague on the white race and that Rudolf Hess, one of Hitler's top advisers, should have won the Nobel Peace

Duke denied the allegation.

"There were no direct quotes in there on me knocking the Jewish people," Duke said. "Again, some liberal journalist says I said something. Why didn't she have a tape? She taped the interview. Why didn't she produce it? It's just the same old stuff."

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Constitution talks to begin soon

South Africa seeking extended voting rights for citizens



JOHANNESBURG, South Africa (AP) - Negotiations with President F.W. de Klerk's government on a nonracial constitution should begin by the end of the month,

African National Congress leader Nelson Mandela

The white government and black opposition groups hope to start talks Nov. 29 on a constitution that would extend voting rights to the 30million black majority.

"We are prepared to sit around the table with everybody who wishes to make a positive contribution toward the success of the conference," Mandela said.

ANC spokeswoman Gill Marcus said the governing National Party and the ANC had tentatively agreed to the Nov. 29 date and were discussing the issue with other parties.

The ANC, the leading black movement, wants an interim government and a constituent assembly to draw up a new constitution. But de Klerk

says his government will not relinquish power until a new constitution is agreed upon.

De Klerk and Mandela, who frequently have expressed mutual respect over the past year, have become increasingly critical of each other in recent weeks. Mistrust is especially high over the issue of black-on-black violence in the townships. The ANC says the government is partly to blame.

De Klerk does not have to call an election until 1994 and considers that his deadline for negotiating a non-racial constitution.

The president has said the document must give voting rights to all citizens, but that he envisions clauses giving whites and other minorities veto power on major policy issues.

Other participants in the negotiations are likely to be the Zulu-based Inkatha Freedom Party, the militant Pan Africanist Congress and the Democratic Party, a white, anti-apartheid group.

Right-wing whites and the black militant Azanian Peoples Organization have so far rejected multiparty talks.

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