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**ARIZONANS BACK McCain IN PRESIDENTIAL MATCHUPS;
EDWARDS IS THE STRONGEST DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATE;
ROMNEY CAMPAIGN LAGS IN STATE**

A recent survey asked registered voters in Arizona about the 2008 presidential election. Survey results generally find more support for Republican candidates than Democratic candidates. Arizona Senator John McCain and former New York City Mayor Rudy Giuliani, Republican candidates for President, would beat all three major Democratic presidential candidates in Arizona. Massachusetts Governor Mitt Romney, another Republican contender, would prevail in a contest with Democratic candidate Senator Hillary Clinton of New York. However, Democrats Barack Obama of Illinois and John Edwards of North Carolina would beat Governor Romney in Arizona if the presidential contest were held today. Among registered voters in Arizona, Senator McCain is the most-favored Republican candidate for president. Former Senator Edwards is the most-favored Democratic candidate.

The *Grand Canyon State Poll* was conducted April 13-19, 2007 by the Social Research Laboratory at Northern Arizona University. The survey was conducted with 493 randomly-selected, registered Arizona voters. Survey results are valid at a +/- 4.5 percent margin of error, at a 95 percent confidence level.

ARIZONANS PREFER REPUBLICAN PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES

In a recent matchup of potential Republican and Democratic presidential candidates, Arizonans prefer the Republican candidates. Arizona's Senator John McCain is currently the most-favored candidate. He receives 54 percent or more support when matched against the three major Democratic candidates for President. Senator McCain runs strongest against Senator Hillary Clinton from New York. If the presidential election were held today, Senator McCain would receive 58 percent of the vote in Arizona compared to Senator Clinton receiving 37 percent of the vote. Senator McCain would receive 56 percent of the vote running against former Senator John Edwards, who would receive 39 percent, and McCain would receive 54 percent of the vote against Senator Barack Obama's 39 percent.

Rudy Giuliani, another Republican contender, would also beat all Democratic challengers. Former Mayor Giuliani would receive 56 percent of the vote running against Senator Clinton, who would receive 37 percent support. He would also win with 56 percent of the vote against former Senator Edwards's 39 percent and would receive 54 percent of the vote against Senator Obama's 39 percent.

Massachusetts Governor Mitt Romney is the weakest Republican candidate in the minds of Arizona voters. Governor Romney would beat Senator Clinton 49 percent to 43 percent if the election were held today, but he would lose to the other two leading Democratic presidential contenders. Senator Edwards would beat Governor Romney 49 to 43 percent, and Senator Obama would beat Governor Romney 46 to 43 percent.

EDWARDS SEEN AS STRONGEST DEMOCRAT IN STATE

Of the major Democratic Party candidates running for president, Senator Edwards has the strongest support among registered voters in Arizona. Senator Edwards would beat Republican Governor Mitt Romney 49 to 43 percent if the presidential election were held today. Edwards would receive 43 percent of the vote against Giuliani's 51 percent of the vote. Edwards would take 39 percent of the vote against Senator McCain, who would receive 56 percent of the vote.

Senator Barack Obama would do best if running against Governor Mitt Romney. In this race, Senator Obama would receive 46 percent of the vote to Romney's 43 percent. Obama

would receive 41 percent of the vote if running against Rudy Giuliani and 39 percent of the vote if running against Senator McCain.

Hillary Clinton, Senator from New York, has the weakest support within the field of Democratic Party candidates. She would receive 43 percent of the vote if running against Mitt Romney in Arizona. Senator Clinton would receive 37 percent of the vote if running against either Senator McCain or Mayor Giuliani.

Fred Solop, director of the survey, commented on the results: “The presidential election season has begun and candidates are jockeying for position. While Senator John McCain is the favorite candidate for Arizona voters, his national campaign is in a somewhat precarious position. If Senator McCain’s candidacy falters, Rudy Giuliani moves into position as the strongest Republican candidate in Arizona. A Romney nomination implies that Democrats have a chance of winning Arizona in the 2008 presidential election.”

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**GRAND CANYON STATE POLL
BACKGROUND MEMO**

Spring 2007

The *Grand Canyon State Poll* was conducted April 13-19, 2007. A random sample of 493 registered voters in Arizona was asked questions regarding politics in Arizona. Survey question results are subject to a sampling error of +/- 4.5 percent at a 95 percent confidence level. Sampling error is the probable difference in results between interviewing everyone in the population versus a scientific sample taken from the population. Sampling error does not take into account additional sources of error inherent in any study of public opinion. The data referred to in this release are presented below.

“2008 is a presidential election year. Now I’m going to pair up some potential candidates for President. As I list each pair of candidates, please tell me which candidate you would vote for...

“If the 2008 presidential election were being held today between [candidate], the Democrat, and [candidate], the Republican, who would you vote for?”

REPUBLICAN PARTY CANDIDATE MATCHUPS

	%	%	
John McCain	58	37	Hillary Clinton
John McCain	56	39	John Edwards
John McCain	54	39	Barack Obama

	%	%	
Rudy Giuliani	56	37	Hillary Clinton
Rudy Giuliani	51	43	John Edwards
Rudy Giuliani	51	41	Barack Obama

	%	%	
Mitt Romney	49	43	Hillary Clinton
Mitt Romney	43	49	John Edwards
Mitt Romney	43	46	Barack Obama

DEMOCRATIC PARTY CANDIDATE MATCHUPS

	%	%	
Hillary Clinton	37	56	Rudy Giuliani
Hillary Clinton	37	58	John McCain
Hillary Clinton	43	49	Mitt Romney

	%	%	
John Edwards	43	51	Rudy Giuliani
John Edwards	39	56	John McCain
John Edwards	49	43	Mitt Romney

	%	%	
Barack Obama	41	51	Rudy Giuliani
Barack Obama	39	54	John McCain
Barack Obama	46	43	Mitt Romney