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ARIZONA POLITICAL REPORT:

McCAIN WITH HIGH APPROVAL RATING; EDUCATION AND BUDGET TOP STATE ISSUES; MAJORITY THINK NAPOLITANO HAS CLEAR VISION FOR STATE; McCAIN EARLY FAVORITE TO KEEP SENATE SEAT

John McCain's public approval rating in Arizona exceeds the approval ratings of Governor Napolitano, and the Arizona state legislature, according to a recent *Grand Canyon State Poll* telephone survey. Arizonans believe Governor Napolitano's top priorities should be education and the economy, including the state's budget deficit. Most people in Arizona believe Governor Napolitano has a clear vision for making Arizona a better place to live. While Governor Napolitano is still relatively unknown to many people, she enjoys a reputation as intelligent, a hard worker, a strong leader, and honest. Most Arizonans have yet to hear much about the 2004 presidential election, but there is more support than opposition to moving Arizona's presidential primary to the front of the primary election season. Among registered voters, John McCain is an early favorite to keep his Senate seat.

The *Grand Canyon State Poll* was conducted by the Social Research Laboratory at Northern Arizona University. The survey took place between March 6 and March 11, 2003. Four hundred randomly-selected Arizonans participated in the survey and study results are accurate to within a margin of error of +/- 5 percent, at a 95 percent confidence level.

HIGH APPROVAL RATING FOR McCAIN; LOW APPROVAL RATING FOR STATE LEGISLATURE

Arizonans were asked if they approve or disapprove of the job Senator McCain, Governor Napolitano, and the state legislature are doing. Survey results show that John McCain enjoys a very high approval rating in Arizona (70%). Governor Napolitano has a 47 percent approval rating in Arizona. Fifteen percent of Arizonans disapprove of the job Napolitano is doing as governor and 38 percent don't know enough about Napolitano to rate the job she is doing. The approval rating for the Arizona legislature is quite low. More people disapprove of the job the state legislature is doing (38%) than approve of the job they are doing (28%).

Arizonans were asked to identify the one issue facing Arizona that should be the top priority of Governor Janet Napolitano. "Education" topped the list, with 32 percent of Arizonans identifying this issue as the top priority. The "economy," including handling the state's budget deficit, was just behind with 29 percent of Arizonans identifying this issue as Governor Napolitano's top priority.

According to Fred Solop, director of the *Grand Canyon State Poll*, "The Governor's approval rating exceeds the approval rating of the state legislature. In the battle between the Governor and the state legislature over how to fix next year's one billion dollar budget deficit, the Governor comes to the table with more public support. This could be an important factor in determining who has greater influence over the eventual solution to the deficit problem."

JANET NAPOLITANO HAS A CLEAR VISION FOR ARIZONA

Over half of Arizonans (58%) say Governor Napolitano has a clear vision for making Arizona a better place to live and 19 percent say she does not have a clear vision for the future.

Public characterization of the Governor reflects her state-wide reputation as a political official. Roughly two-thirds of Arizonans describe Governor Napolitano as "intelligent" (67%) and "a hard worker" (62%). Half believe she is a "strong leader" (48%). Forty-four percent say she is "honest." Other characteristics rated in the survey include "likeable" (34%), "understands your concerns" (29%), and "warm and caring" (24%).

Despite favorable ratings by Arizonans, many residents don't know much about the Governor as a person. When asked how much they know about Governor Janet Napolitano as a person, half of respondents (50%) say they "do not know very much" about her and 21 percent

say they know “nothing at all” about the Governor as a person. Twenty-eight percent say they know either “a lot” or “a fair amount” about Governor Napolitano

McCAIN EARLY FAVORITE IN 2004 ELECTION; TIMING OF PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY IS MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING

The 2004 presidential election is already underway as a large number of Democrats have declared their candidacy for the party’s nomination. Despite the jockeying for position taking place among Democrats, only 43 percent of Arizonans say they have heard “a lot” or “some” about the 2004 presidential election. Fifty-seven percent have only heard “a little” or “nothing at all” about the upcoming election.

Though not yet selected, the Republican presidential candidate enjoys an early lead in Arizona. Forty-three percent of registered voters say they are likely to vote for the Republican presidential candidate in the 2004 election. Twenty-nine percent of registered voters in Arizona say they are likely to vote for the Democratic candidate for president.

Solop commented, “Arizona typically supports Republicans for national office. It looks like this trend will continue into the 2004 election season.”

The 2004 election will also feature Arizona’s Senator John McCain running to keep his Senate seat. Other potential contenders for the Republican nomination are Maricopa County Sheriff Joe Arpaio and Congressman Jeff Flake. Among registered voters, two-thirds (66%) prefer to see Senator John McCain as the Republican nominee for the U.S. Senate seat. Eleven percent of registered voters in Arizona prefer to see Arpaio as the Republican Senate nominee and eight percent prefer to see Jeff Flake as the party’s nominee.

One issue that has already emerged in the 2004 presidential election is timing of the Arizona presidential primary. Governor Napolitano has declared that Arizona will hold an early primary on February 3rd, 2004. Despite the threat of gubernatorial veto, some Republican legislators in Arizona are talking about withholding funding of the state primary as a cost-saving measure. A quarter of Arizonans (26%) support moving the Arizona primary to the front of the election season, in contrast to just nine percent that oppose the early primary. Most Arizonans (60%) say the timing of the primary “does not matter” to them.



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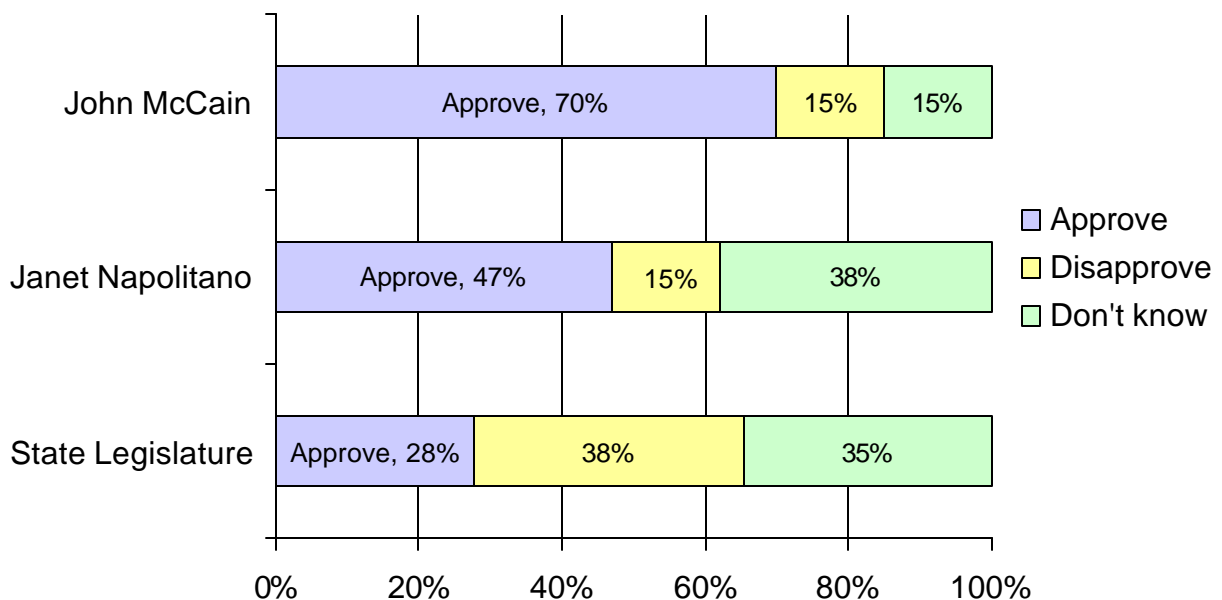
Wednesday, March 19, 2003

GRAND CANYON STATE POLL BACKGROUND MEMO

Spring 2003

The *Grand Canyon State Poll* was conducted between March 6 and March 11, 2003. A random sample of 400 adult residents of Arizona was asked questions regarding politics in Arizona. Survey question results are subject to a sampling error of +/- 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.

Do you approve or disapprove of the way _____ is handling his/her job as _____?



In your opinion, what ONE issue facing Arizona should be the top priority of Janet Napolitano, the Governor of Arizona, to work on in the coming year? [Do not read responses]

	Percent	Count
Education	32%	129
Budget deficit/the economy	29%	114
Border issues/immigration	6%	22
Healthcare	4%	16
Handling taxes	3%	12
Environment	3%	10
Social security/other social service issues	2%	7
Security/terrorism	1%	3
Crime	1%	4
Other	11%	42
Don't know/refused	10%	40
Total	102%	N = 399

Do you think Janet Napolitano does or does not have a clear vision for making Arizona a better place to live?

	Percent	Count
Does have a clear vision	58%	230
Does not have a clear vision	19%	75
Don't know/refused	24%	95
Total	101%	N = 400

People are often described by a number of characteristics such as “smart” or “nice.” Please tell me if you think each characteristic I read describes Janet Napolitano a lot, a little, or not at all . If you don’t have an opinion on some, just let me know. First, how about [READ ITEM]? Does this fit Napolitano a lot, a little or not at all?

		A lot	A little	Not at all	Don’t know/ refused	Total
Intelligent	Percent	67%	11%	1%	20%	99%
	Count	(268)	(45)	(6)	(82)	N = 401
A hard worker	Percent	62%	14%	2%	23%	101%
	Count	(247)	(55)	(7)	(90)	N = 399
A strong leader	Percent	48%	20%	6%	26%	100%
	Count	(190)	(82)	(24)	(104)	N = 400
Honest	Percent	44%	19%	4%	32%	99%
	Count	(177)	(77)	(17)	(129)	N = 400
Likeable	Percent	34%	33%	7%	26%	100%
	Count	(135)	(131)	(29)	(104)	N = 399
Understands the concerns you personally face in day-to-day life	Percent	29%	26%	16%	29%	100%
	Count	(116)	(105)	(63)	(116)	N = 400
Warm and caring	Percent	24%	26%	9%	41%	100%
	Count	(94)	(106)	(36)	(164)	N = 400

How much do you feel you know about Janet Napolitano as a person — a lot, a fair amount, not very much, or nothing at all?

	Percent	Count
A lot	4%	15
A fair amount	24%	96
Not very much	50%	199
Nothing at all	21%	86
Don’t know/not sure/refused	1%	3
Total	100%	N = 399

How much have you heard or seen about the upcoming 2004 presidential election and the candidates who will be running: a lot, some, a little, or nothing at all?

	Percent	Count
A lot	17%	69
Some	25%	101
A little	34%	134
Nothing at all	23%	93
Don't know/not sure/refused	--	2
Total	99%	N = 399

Suppose the election for president was held today and you had to choose right now--would you vote for a candidate from the Republican Party, a candidate from the Democratic Party, a candidate from the Libertarian Party, a candidate from the Green Party, or some other party's candidate?

	Registered Voters	Count
Republican Party	43%	129
Democratic Party	29%	88
Libertarian Party	1%	3
Green Party	1%	3
Other party's candidate	2%	6
None of the above	---	1
Don't know/depends on who runs	23%	70
Total	100%	N = 300

In 2004, Arizona will also hold a U.S. Senate election. Senator John McCain will be running to hold his current seat. Congressman Jeff Flake and Maricopa County Sheriff Joe Arpaio are likely to challenge him in the Republican primary. Who would you prefer to see as the Republican nominee for Senate in Arizona: John McCain, Jeff Flake, or Joe Arpaio?

	Registered Voters	Count
John McCain	66%	204
Jeff Flake	8%	26
Joe Arpaio	11%	35
None of the above	3%	10
Don't know/depends on who runs	11%	33
Total	99%	N = 308

Governor Napolitano recently proclaimed that Arizona will hold a presidential primary immediately after the New Hampshire primary, which is always the first presidential primary in the nation. Do you support or oppose Governor Napolitano's decision to move the Arizona primary to the front of the primary season, or does it not matter to you?

	Percent	Count
Support	26%	105
Oppose	9%	35
Does not matter	60%	239
Don't know/refused	5%	21
Total	100%	N = 400