NEWS Release

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Cable News Out of Sync With Public Interest in Campaign FOREIGN DISASTERS ATTRACT INTEREST DESPITE MODEST COVERAGE

The American public expressed strong news interest in the earthquake in China last week even as the news media remained heavily focused on the presidential campaign. In spite of modest coverage of both the earthquake in China and the cyclone that hit Burma, the public had a fairly good sense of the magnitude of both disasters.

News Interest vs. News Coverage May 12-18 Gas prices 31 China earthquake 22 2008 Campaign 20 Burma cyclone Gay marriage ruling Bush trip Interest: percent who followed this story most closely Coverage: percent of news coverage devoted to story

About one-in-five Americans (22%) say they followed news about the

earthquake in China more closely than any other story last week, which is about the same percentage citing the presidential campaign as their top story (20%). By contrast, news organizations devoted much more coverage to the campaign – 37% of all news coverage – than to the China disaster (13%).

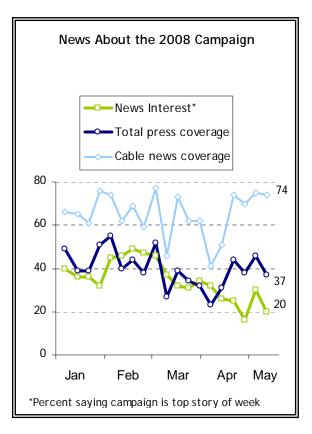
News about gas prices, which barely appeared on the news media's radar, was the public's top story. Roughly three-in-ten (31%) say they followed reports about rising gas prices more closely than any other story last week.

There were dramatic differences in coverage across media sectors last week. Cable TV news focused on the campaign almost to the exclusion of other top news stories. According to the Project for Excellence in Journalism's (PEJ) News Coverage Index, national cable TV news outlets devoted 74% of their coverage last week to the campaign and only 4% to the Chinese earthquake. By contrast, network TV news and national newspapers split their coverage about equally between these two stories.

Throughout the year, cable news has consistently devoted more coverage to the presidential campaign than have other news sources. And cable news coverage of the campaign has typically exceeded the public's interest in the election.

Last week represented one of the largest gaps between cable coverage of the campaign and public interest in the race. While cable networks devoted 74% of their coverage to the campaign, only 20% of the public listed the campaign as the single news story they followed most closely.

Interest in the campaign declined from 30% the previous week, and is down substantially from earlier in the campaign. In mid-February (Feb. 11-17), 46% cited the presidential campaign as their top news story, more than double the percentage last week.



Public Awareness of International Tragedies

Though the final death toll for the Burma cyclone is not yet known, most news organizations and relief agencies are estimating it will reach or surpass 100,000. More than a third of the public (36%) said the death toll was estimated to be around 100,000 and another 17% said it was around 50,000. In addition, fully 63% of the public knew that Burma was located in Southeast Asia.

Similarly, 52% of the public came close to estimating the number of deaths in China. A week after the earthquake the confirmed death toll stands at roughly 34,000, and the government estimates the final number of victims could surpass 50,000. Three-in-ten Americans (29%) said that around 25,000 people had died and 23% said it was around 50,000.

Many Aware of Disa Death Tolls	ster
Estimated death toll from Burma's cyclone: Less than 10,000 Around 25,000 Around 50,000 Around 100,000 or more Don't know Estimated death toll from China's earthquake: Less than 10,000 Around 25,000 Around 50,000 Around 100,000 or more Don't know	 % 10 17 17 36 20 100 % 15 29 23 16 17 100
Location of Burma: Southeast Asia (correct) Pacific Ocean Europe Latin America Don't know	% 63 7 2 1 27 100

Edwards Endorsement a Minor Event

On the campaign trail, a third of the public heard a lot about John Edwards endorsing Barack Obama for president. Another 46% heard a little about the endorsement and 21% heard nothing at all about it. Among Democrats 44% heard a lot about Edwards' endorsement. Public

On the Campaign Trail Last Week					
How much have you heard about Edwards endorsement of Obama Bush's speech in Israel McCain's speech forecasting his first term	A <u>lot</u> % 33 29	A <u>little</u> % 46 36 45	Nothing at all % 21 34 37	DK % *=100 1=100	

awareness of the Edwards endorsement was relatively low compared with other recent campaign events. More than half of the public (52%) heard a lot about Obama's controversial statement last month that some small-town Americans cling to guns and religion during tough economic times.

News organizations devoted a good deal of coverage to Edwards' endorsement. According to PEJ's Campaign Coverage Index, Edwards actually attracted more media attention last week than he did the week he dropped out of the Democratic primary race. Edwards was featured prominently in 10% of all campaign coverage last week.

About three-in-ten (29%) say they heard a lot about George Bush's speech before the Israeli Knesset, during which he criticized unnamed leaders who would negotiate with terrorists or radicals. Another 36% heard a little about Bush's speech, while 34% heard nothing at all. Republicans are more likely than Democrats to have heard at least a little about the speech. Bush's speech brought a strong reaction from Obama, who viewed as an attack on his approach to foreign policy.

John McCain continues to lag behind Obama and Clinton in terms of media coverage and public visibility. While news coverage of McCain was up significantly last week, only a small minority of Americans (17%) heard a lot about McCain's speech outlining his plans for his presidency, including his prediction that most American troops will be withdrawn from Iraq by 2013. Some 45% heard a little about the speech and 37% heard nothing at all. Only 22% of Republicans heard a lot about the speech.

Although Clinton was the big winner last week, beating Obama in the West Virginia Democratic primary by a substantial margin, Obama was the most visible presidential candidate in the eyes of the public. About six-in-ten (59%) said the Illinois senator was the candidate they had heard the most about in the news recently while 25% named Clinton and only 4% named McCain. A solid majority of Americans (64%) correctly identified Clinton as the winner in West

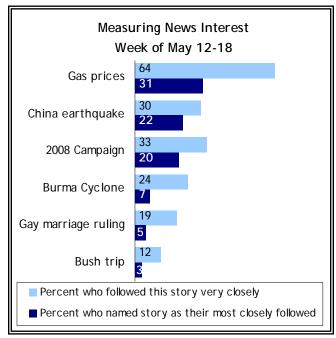
Virginia, though somewhat more (79%) knew that she won the Pennsylvania primary in late April.

These findings are based on the most recent installment of the weekly *News Interest Index*, an ongoing project of the Pew Research Center for the People & the Press. The index, building on the Center's longstanding research into public attentiveness to major news stories, examines news interest as it relates to the news media's agenda. The weekly survey is conducted in conjunction with The Project for Excellence in Journalism's *News Coverage Index*, which monitors the news reported by major newspaper, television, radio and online news outlets on an ongoing basis. In the most recent week, data relating to news coverage was collected from May 12-18 and survey data measuring public interest in the top news stories of the week was collected May 16-19 from a nationally representative sample of 1,009 adults.

Gas Prices Top News Interest Once Again

In other news last week the rising price of gas was by far the public's most closely followed news story. Nearly two-thirds of the public (64%) reported following the rising price of gas very closely, while 31% named it as their top story of the week. Interest in rising gas prices has remained high in recent weeks (63% very closely during May 2-5).

About one-in-five Americans (19%) paid very close attention to the decision by the California Supreme Court giving same-sex couples the right to marry; just 5% cited this as their top story of the week. News organizations devoted 3% of all coverage to the decision.



George Bush's second trip to the Middle East this year attracted relatively little public interest: 12% followed the story very closely, while 3% listed it as the story they followed most closely.

About the News Interest Index

The *News Interest Index* is a weekly survey conducted by the Pew Research Center for the People & the Press aimed at gauging the public's interest in and reaction to major news events.

This project has been undertaken in conjunction with the Project for Excellence in Journalism's *News Coverage Index*, an ongoing content analysis of the news. The News Coverage Index catalogues the news from top news organizations across five major sectors of the media: newspapers, network television, cable television, radio and the internet. Each week (from Sunday through Friday) PEJ will compile this data to identify the top stories for the week. The News Interest Index survey will collect data from Friday through Monday to gauge public interest in the most covered stories of the week.

Results for the weekly surveys are based on telephone interviews among a nationwide sample of approximately 1,000 adults, 18 years of age or older, conducted under the direction of ORC (Opinion Research Corporation). For results based on the total sample, one can say with 95% confidence that the error attributable to sampling is plus or minus 3.5 percentage points.

In addition to sampling error, one should bear in mind that question wording and practical difficulties in conducting surveys can introduce error or bias into the findings of opinion polls, and that results based on subgroups will have larger margins of error.

For more information about the Project for Excellence in Journalism's News Coverage Index, go to www.journalism.org.

About the Pew Research Center for the People & the Press

The Pew Research Center for the People & the Press is an independent opinion research group that studies attitudes toward the press, politics and public policy issues. We are sponsored by The Pew Charitable Trusts and are one of eight projects that make up the Pew Research Center, a nonpartisan "fact tank" that provides information on the issues, attitudes and trends shaping America and the world.

The Center's purpose is to serve as a forum for ideas on the media and public policy through public opinion research. In this role it serves as an important information resource for political leaders, journalists, scholars, and public interest organizations. All of our current survey results are made available free of charge.

All of the Center's research and reports are collaborative products based on the input and analysis of the entire Center staff consisting of:

Andrew Kohut, Director
Scott Keeter, Director of Survey Research
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PEW RESEARCH CENTER FOR THE PEOPLE & THE PRESS MAY 16-19, 2008 NEWS INTEREST INDEX OMNIBUS SURVEY TOPLINE N=1,009

Q.1 Apart from who you support, which presidential candidate have you heard the most about in the news in the last week or so? [OPEN-END. RECORD FIRST MENTION ONLY]

	Hillary	Barack	John		Don't know/
	<u>Clinton</u>	<u>Obama</u>	McCain	<u>Other</u>	Refused
May 16-19, 2008	25	59	4	2	10=100
May 9-12, 2008	36	52	2	2	8=100
May 2-5, 2008	29	57	2	2	10=100
April 25-28, 2008	38	46	3	1	12=100
April 18-21, 2008	28	55	4	1	12=100
April 11-14, 2008	24	51	8	2	15=100
April 4-7, 2008	34	45	6	1	14=100
March 28-31, 2008	30	53	4	2	11=100
March 20-24, 2008	15	70	3	1	11=100
March 14-17, 2008	26	57	4	2	11=100
March 7-10, 2008	37	38	6	4	15=100

Q.2 Please think about each of the following presidential candidates [INSERT NAME. ROTATE]. In the past few days, have you come to have a MORE favorable opinion of (him/her), a LESS favorable opinion, or hasn't your opinion of (him/her) changed lately?

	XXIII GU	More <u>favorable</u>	Less <u>favorable</u>	Opinion has not changed	Don't know
a.	Hillary Clinton	15	22	60	3=100
	May 9-12, 2008	12	25	61	2=100
	May 2-5, 2008	14	16	65	5=100
	April 25-28, 2008	16	26	56	2=100
	April 18-21, 2008	11	31	55	3=100
	March 28-31, 2008	13	30	55	2=100
	March 20-24, 2008	16	25	57	2=100
b.	Barack Obama	19	19	59	3=100
	May 9-12, 2008	20	23	55	2=100
	May 2-5, 2008	11	25	59	5=100
	April 25-28, 2008	16	24	58	2=100
	April 18-21, 2008	18	24	54	4=100
	March 28-31, 2008	18	27	52	3=100
	March 20-24, 2008	22	30	46	2=100
c.	John McCain	14	21	62	3=100
٠.	May 9-12, 2008	12	18	67	3=100
	May 2-5, 2008	10	13	71	6=100
	April 25-28, 2008	14	16	65	5=100
	April 18-21, 2008	18	15	61	6=100
	March 28-31, 2008	18	20	57	5=100
	March 20-24, 2008	18	18	61	3=100

ASK ALL:

Q.3 As I read a list of some stories covered by news organizations this past week, please tell me if you happened to follow each news story very closely, fairly closely, not too closely, or not at all closely. First, [INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE ITEMS] [IF NECESSARY "Did you follow [ITEM] very closely, fairly closely, not too closely or not at all closely?"]

a.	The rising price of gasoline	Very <u>Closely</u> 64	Fairly Closely 21	Not too Closely 10	Not at all Closely 4	DK/ <u>Refused</u> 1=100
α.	May 2-5, 2008	63	23	9	4	1=100 1=100
	April 25-28, 2008	62	23	10	5	*=100
	May 24-27, 2007	52	29	10	8	1=100
	May 18-21, 2007 ¹	48	27	16	8	1=100
	August, 2006^2	60	26	7	5	2 = 100
	June, 2006	58	26	10	5	1=100
	May, 2006	69	21	6	3	1=100
	April, 2006	65	22	8	4	1=100
	December, 2005	61	27	7	4	1=100
	Early November, 2005	61	27	9	2	1=100
	Late October, 2005	67	23	7	3	*=100
	Early October, 2005	65	25	6	3	1=100
	Early September, 2005	71	19	7	3	*=100
	Mid-May, 2005	58	27	9	5	1=100
	Mid-March, 2005	50	32	13	5	*=100
	Mid-October, 2004	64	22	8	5	1=100
	August, 2004	52	29	10	8	1=100
	July, 2004	56	25	11	7	1 = 100
	June, 2004	58	26	9	6	1=100
	April, 2004	46	30	15	8	1=100
	Early April, 2004	58	23	10	8	1=100
	Mid-March, 2004	47	27	14	10	2 = 100
	September, 2003	45	27	15	11	1=100
	March 2003	52	27	11	9	1=100
	February, 2003	53	25	12	9	1=100
	June, 2001	56	31	7	5	1=100
	May, 2001	61	26	6	6	1=100
	Early October, 2000	56	25	12	6	1 = 100
	June, 2000	61	25	9	5	*=100
	March, 2000	58	28	10	4	*=100
	October, 1990	62	26	8	4	*=100
	September, 1990	56	28	11	5	*=100
	August, 1990	57	27	10	5	1=100
	TREND FOR COMPARISON:					
	The rising price of oil					
	March 7-10, 2008	43	33	12	11	1=100
	November 9-12, 2007	44	28	14	13	1=100
b.	Reports about the cyclone that hit Burma	24	37	20	18	1=100
	May 9-12, 2008	23	35	23	19	*=100

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For May 18-21, 2007 the item was not asked as part of a list.

From October, 2000 to August, 2006, the story was listed as "The high price of gasoline these days." From August, 1990 to June, 2000, the story was listed as "Recent increases in the price of gasoline."

Q.	3 CONTINUED					
		Very	Fairly	Not too	Not at all	DK/
		<u>Closely</u>	Closely	<u>Closely</u>	<u>Closely</u>	Refused
	TREND FOR COMPARISON: ³					
	September, 2005: <i>Katrina</i>	70	21	7	2	*=100
	January, 2005: <i>Tsunami</i>	58	32	7	3	*=100
c.	George Bush's trip to the Middle East	12	23	29	35	1=100
	TREND FOR COMPARISON:					
	January 18-21, 2008: <i>Middle East</i> ⁴	17	30	25	28	*=100
	March 16-19, 2007: Latin America	11	23	27	38	1=100
	July 2001: G-8 Genoa, Italy	6	21	31	40	2=100
	June 2001: <i>Europe</i>	10	25	27	37	1=100
	Julie 2001. Europe	10	23	21	31	1-100
d.	The earthquake in China	30	41	17	12	*=100
	TREND FOR COMPARISON:	22	20	22	1.6	d 100
	October 2005: Pakistan	22	39	23	16	*=100
	January 2005: Earthquake and Tsunami in	=0		_		
	Indian Ocean	58	32	7	3	*=100
	January 2004: <i>Iran</i>	16	34	31	19	*=100
	February 2001: <i>India</i>	15	33	31	20	1 = 100
	October 1999: <i>Taiwan</i>	17	36	31	16	*=100
	September 1999: Turkey	27	37	23	12	1=100
	February 1995: <i>Japan</i>	25	47	20	8	*=100
	January 1994: Southern California	63	31	5	1	0 = 100
	July 1990: <i>Iran</i>	20	36	28	16	*=100
	November 1989: San Francisco	73	22	3	2	*=100
0	The California Supreme Court's decision					
e.		19	27	25	28	1=100
	giving same sex couples the right to marry TREND FOR COMPARISON: ⁵	19	21	25	20	1=100
	May 2004: Gay marriage	20	27	25	27	1=100
	March 2004: Gay Marriage	29	33	20	17	1=100
	Early-February 2004: Debate over gay	26	32	22	19	1=100
	marriage Mid-August 2003: <i>Debate over gay marriage</i>	19	30	22	28	1=100
f.	News about candidates for the 2008					
	presidential election	33	37	19	10	1=100
	May 9-12, 2008	35	36	18	11	*=100
	May 2-5, 2008	27	35	23	14	1=100
	April 25-28, 2008	34	3 7	18	11	*=100
	April 18-21, 2008	29	41	19	10	1=100
	April 11-14, 2008	31	37		10	*=100
	•			22 17		
	April 4-7, 2008	33	36	17	14	*=100 * 100
	March 28-31, 2008	31	41	18	10	*=100
	March 20-24, 2008	34	37	18	11	*=100
	March 14-17, 2008	40	37	16	7	*=100

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September, 2005 asked about: "The impact of Hurricane Katrina on New Orleans and the Gulf Coast." January, 2005 asked about: "The earthquake and tsunami in the Indian Ocean."

January 18-21, 2008 asked about: "George Bush's recent trip to the Middle East and news about renewed efforts at peace in the region."

March, 2004 and May, 2004 asked about: "The issue of gay and lesbian marriage." August, 2003 and February, 2004 asked about: "The debate about allowing gays and lesbians to marry."

CONTINUED					
	Very	Fairly	Not too	Not at all	DK/
MI 7 10 2000	Closely	Closely	Closely	Closely	Refused
March 7-10, 2008	39	36	15	9	1=100
February 29-March 3, 2008	43	34	14	9	*=100 * 100
February 22-25, 2008	42	37	13	8	*=100 * 100
February 15-18, 2008	44	36	10	10	*=100
February 8-11, 2008	39	37	15	9	0=100
February 1-4, 2008	37	35 35	16	12	*=100
January 25-28, 2008	36	37	14	12	1=100
January 18-21, 2008	36	34	18	12	*=100
January 11-14, 2008 ⁶	32	31	19	17	1=100
January 4-7, 2008	33	36	19	11	1=100
December 14-17, 2007	25	34	22	19	*=100
December 7-10, 2007	24	35	22	19	*=100
November 30 – December 3, 2007	23	35	23	19	*=100
November 23-26, 2007	20	33	26	20	1=100
November 16-19, 2007	26	33	21	19	1=100
November 9-12, 2007	21	33	25	21	*=100
November 2-5, 2007	27	30	21	21	1=100
October 26-29, 2007	21	34	26	19	*=100
October 19-22, 2007	23	32	22	23	*=100
October 12-15, 2007	13	31	26	30	*=100
October 5-8, 2007	22	30	24	24	*=100
September 28 – October 1, 2007	21	34	25	20	*=100
September 21-24, 2007	24	31	22	23	*=100
September 14-17, 2007	22	31	24	23	*=100
September 7-10, 2007	18	34	26	22	*=100
August 30-September 2, 2007	19	35	21	25	*=100
August 24-27, 2007	22	28	24	26	*=100
August 17-20, 2007	19	27	24	30	*=100
August 10-13, 2007	23	32	21	24	*=100
August 3-6, 2007	19	31	25	25	*=100
July 27-30, 2007	19	32	22	26	1=100
July 20-23, 2007	16	26	30	27	1=100
July 13-16, 2007	17	29	27	27	*=100
July 6-9, 2007	24	29	24	22	1=100
June 29-July 2, 2007	20	32	25	23	*=100
June 22-25, 2007	18	31	21	30	*=100
June 15-18, 2007	17	32	26	25	*=100
June 8-11, 2007	19	30	24	26	1=100
June 1-4, 2007	16	27	32	24	1=100
May 24-27, 2007	22	33	23	22	*=100
May 18-21, 2007	18	31	24	27	*=100
May 11-14, 2007	18	30	23	28	1=100
May 4-7, 2007	23	34	21	21	1=100
April 27-30, 2007	14	30	29	26	1=100
April 20-23, 2007	18	28	27	27	*= 100
April 12-16, 2007	18	28	27	27	*=100
April 5-9, 2007	25	30	26	19	*= 100
March 30-April 2, 2007	20	29	2 0 27	23	1=100
March 23-26, 2007	20	32	22	26 26	*=100
March 16-19, 2007	15	28	29	20 27	1=100
March 9-12, 2007	24	30	23	23	*=100
wiaich 7-12, 2007	44	30	43	43	-100

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January 11-14, 2008 asked about: "News about the New Hampshire primaries and the presidential campaign."

	Very	Fairly	Not too	Not at all	DK/
15 1 2 5 2005	Closely	Closely	Closely	Closely	Refused
March 2-5, 2007	19	31	26	23	1=100
February 23-26, 2007	22	33	24	21	*=100
February 16-19, 2007	18	32	22	27	1=100
February 9-12, 2007	24 24	30 36	24 22	21 18	1=100
February 2-5, 2007 January 26-29, 2007	24 24	33	22 23	18 20	*=100 *=100
January 19-22, 2007 January 19-22, 2007	24	33 27	23 22	26 26	1=100
2004 Presidential Election	24	21	22	20	1-100
November, 2004 (RVs)	52	36	8	4	*=100
Mid-October, 2004	46	30	12	11	1=100
August, 2004	32	38	16	14	*=100
July, 2004	29	37	18	15	1=100
April, 2004	31	33	19	16	1=100
Mid-March, 2004	35	34	18	13	*=100
Late February, 2004	24	40	23	12	1=100
Early February, 2004 ⁸	29	37	20	13	1=100
Mid-January, 2004	16	30	27	26	1=100
Early January, 2004	14	32	30	23	1=100
December, 2003	16	26	27	30	1=100
November, 2003	11	26	34	28	1=100
October, 2003	12	27	28	32	1=100
September, 2003	17	25	30	27	1=100
Mid-August, 2003	12	27	27	33	1=100
May, 2003	8	19	31	41	1=100
January, 2003	14	28	29	28	1 = 100
2000 Presidential Election					
Early November, 2000 (RVs)	39	44	12	5	*=100
Mid-October, 2000 (RVs)	40	37	15	8	*=100
Early October, 2000 (RVs)	42	36	15	6	1=100
September, 2000	22	42	21	15	*=100
July, 2000	21	38	20	20	1=100
June, 2000	23	32	23	21	1=100
May, 2000	18	33	26	23	*=100
April, 2000	18	39	22	20	1=100
March, 2000	26	41	19	13	1=100
February, 2000	26	36	21	17	*=100
January, 2000	19	34	28	18	1=100
December, 1999	16	36	24	23	1=100
October, 1999	17	32	28	22	1=100
September, 1999	15	31	33	20	1=100
July, 1999	15	38	24	22	1=100
June, 1999	11	25	29	34	1=100

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January 19-22, 2007 asked about: "Recent announcements by prominent Democrats about plans to run for president in 2008."

From May 2003 to Early February 2004 and in March 1992, the story was listed as "The race for the Democratic nomination." In January 2003, the story was listed as "Recent announcements by prominent Democrats about plans to run for president in 2004." In September 2000, Early September and July 1996, and May 1992, the question asked about "the presidential election campaign." In January, March and April 1996, the story was listed as "News about the Republican presidential candidates." In August 1992, the story was listed as "News about the presidential election." In July 1992, the story was listed as "News about the presidential campaign." In January 1992, the story was listed as "News about the Democratic candidates for the presidential nomination." In 1988, the story was introduced as being from "this past year" and was listed as "News about the presidential campaign in 1988."

	Very Closely	Fairly Classly	Not too Closely	Not at all Closely	DK/
1996 Presidential Election	Closely	Closely	Closery	Closely	Refused
	2.4	15	1.5	(* 100
November, 1996 (<i>RVs</i>)	34	45	15	6	*=100
October, 1996	31	39	18	12	*=100
Early September, 1996	24	36	23	17	*=100
July, 1996	22	40	23	14	1 = 100
March, 1996	26	41	20	13	*=100
January, 1996	10	34	31	24	1=100
September, 1995	12	36	30	22	*=100
August, 1995	13	34	28	25	*=100
June, 1995	11	31	31	26	1=100
1992 Presidential Election					
October, 1992 (<i>RVs</i>)	55	36	7	2	0 = 100
September, 1992 (RVs)	47	36	11	6	*=100
August, 1992 (RVs)	36	51	11	2	0 = 100
July, 1992	20	45	26	9	*=100
May, 1992	32	44	16	8	*=100
March, 1992	35	40	16	9	*=100
January, 1992	11	25	36	27	1=100
December, 1991	10	28	32	30	*=100
October, 1991	12	26	31	29	2 = 100
1988 Presidential Election					
October, 1988 (<i>RVs</i>)	43	44	11	2	*=100
August, 1988 (<i>RVs</i>)	39	45	13	3	*=100
May, 1988	22	46	23	6	3=100
November, 1987	15	28	35	21	1=100
September, 1987	14	34	37	14	1=100

Q.4 Which ONE of the stories I just mentioned have you followed most closely, or is there another story you've been following MORE closely? [DO NOT READ LIST. ACCEPT ONLY ONE RESPONSE.]

- 31 The rising price of gasoline
- 22 The earthquake in China
- 20 News about candidates for the 2008 presidential election
- 7 Reports about the cyclone that hit Burma
- The California Supreme Court's decision giving same sex couples the right to marry
- 5 3 George Bush's trip to the Middle East
- 4 Some other story (**SPECIFY**)
- <u>8</u> 100 Don't know/Refused

Now thinking about the presidential campaign...

Q.5 How much if anything have you heard about each of the following? Have you heard a lot, a little or nothing at all? [READ ITEMS, ROTATE]

		A lot	A little	Nothing <u>at all</u>	DK/ <u>Refused</u>
a.	John Edwards endorsing Barack Obama for president	33	46	21	*=100
b.	John McCain's speech outlining his plans for eventually ending the war in Iraq	17	45	37	1=100
c.	George Bush's speech in Israel criticizing leaders who would negotiate with terrorists or radicals	29	36	34	1=100

Q.6 On another subject, do you happen to know which Democratic candidate won the West Virginia primary? [IF RESPONDENT SAYS YES BUT DOES NOT PROVIDE NAME, ASK: Who was it?]

64 5 31 100	Hillary Clinton Yes, all others DK/Refused	Pennsylvania Primary April 25-28, 2008 79 3 18 100	March 4th Primaries (OH, TX) Mar 7-10, 2008 55 23 22 100	NH Primary Jan 11-14, 2008 67 8 25 100
	Barack Obama Yes, all others DK/Refused	Iowa Caucus Jan 4-7 2008 ¹¹ 71 5 24 100		

Correct answers highlighted in bold

Now I'm going to ask you about some things that have been in the news recently. Not everyone will have heard about them...

Q.7 Do you happen to know where Burma is located? Is it in...(**READ, ROTATE**)?

- 2 Europe
- 7 The Pacific Ocean
- 1 Latin America
- 63 Southeast Asia {correct answer}
- <u>27</u> Don't know/Refused (**DO NOT READ**)
- 100

March 7-10, 2008 asked about: "Which Democratic candidate won most of the primaries last Tuesday?"

January 11-14, 2008 asked about: "Which Democratic candidate won in the New Hampshire Democratic Primary?"

January 4-7, 2008 asked about: "Which Democratic candidate won the Iowa Democratic Caucus?"

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- Q.8 Do you happen to know how many people were killed in the recent cyclone in Burma? Was it estimated to be... (**READ IN ORDER**)?
 - 10 Less than 10,000
 - 17 Around 25,000
 - 17 Around 50,000
 - 36 Around 100,000 or more
 - 20 Don't know/Refused (**DO NOT READ**)

100

- Q.9 Now thinking about the recent earthquake in China, do you happen to know how many people were killed in the earthquake? Was it estimated to be... (**READ IN ORDER**)?
 - 15 Less than 10,000
 - 29 Around 25,000
 - 23 Around 50,000
 - 16 Around 100,000 or more
 - <u>17</u> Don't know/Refused (**DO NOT READ**)

100