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For More Information

Todd Lovato, SFCC Media Relations
Sen. Edward Kennedy, Washington Office

(505) 428-1776
(202) 224-4543

Senator Edward M. Kennedy Campaigns for Barack Obama at Santa Fe Community College

Santa Fe, NM, Feb. 1, 2008 — On Thursday, January 31, 2008, Senator Edward M. Kennedy (D-Mass.) spoke to a capacity crowd inside Santa Fe Community College's Jemez Rooms. The lecture and community gathering was part of Kennedy's "Change We Can Believe In" tour, a campaign promoting presidential hopeful Barack Obama.

A crowd of more than 500 students, faculty, staff, local residents and politicians gathered to see and hear Kennedy make his argument for Obama as the country's next president.

Between praise for Obama, Kennedy also found time to compliment New Mexico. "I came to your state years ago, in 1959, when I came to support my brothers (John F. Kennedy, Robert F. Kennedy) in advancing the Democratic nomination," said Kennedy. "I always feel home in Santa Fe."

Over the course of the 20-minute speech, Kennedy touched on issues ranging from education and health care to military spending and U.S. involvement in the Middle East. Kennedy's speech drew loud applause and cheers when he relayed Obama's proposal to provide educational assistance to low income groups in exchange for community service and volunteer work.

"We have seen the idealism of the young people in this nation," said Kennedy. "We have seen the sense and feeling of young people that want to give something back to this country... So many people have been willing to work and assist in this community. But so few say, 'Ok, I'll involve myself in the political process to really make a difference.'"

The Kennedy rally came one day before Obama held a rally at the SFCC Witter Fitness Education Center.

About Santa Fe Community College

Santa Fe Community College is the gateway to success for individuals and the community by providing affordable, high quality educational programs that serve the social, cultural, technological and economic needs of a diverse community. The college serves more than 14,500 students per year in its credit, noncredit and adult basic education programs. For further information, visit www.sfccnm.edu or call (505) 428-1000.

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