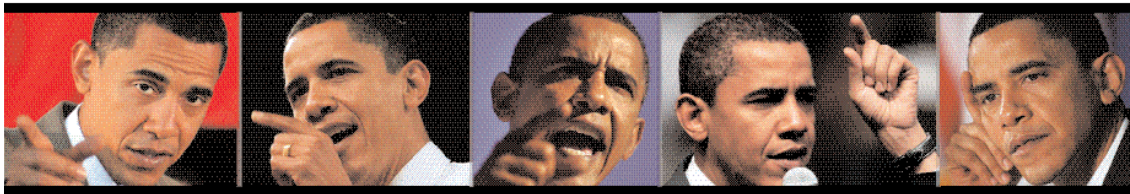


Daily News SPECIAL



I'M ASKING YOU TO BELIEVE.
 Not just in my ability
 to bring about
 real change
 in Washington...
 I'm asking you to
 believe in yours
 - Barak Obama

OBAMA on the move



**MICHELLE
 LAVAUGHN
 ROBINSON
 OBAMA**

Born
 January 17,
 1964
 Chicago,
 Illinois

Zodiac
 Capricorn

Height
 1.8m

Parents
 Marian &
 Fraser Robinson

Education
 Graduated: Princeton
 University (1985)
 Graduated: Harvard
 University Law School
 (1988)

We just cannot seem to get enough of Barack Obama. We have seen how the junior Illinois senator who had become America's first black president has come along and seemingly energized the entire political scenario world over. Yet, how much of this is entirely his doing, and how much of it is merely a matter of timing? Before Obama came along, political news' appeal was on a general decline. A succession of events, including the unpopular Iraq war, Hurricane Katrina and its aftermath, and the usual Washington political scandals started leaving a bad aftertaste in the public's appetite for political news. Sure, we all love a juicy scandal, and it is an injustice that many citizens are still unable to carry on with their lives years after Katrina swept through, but the truth was, there was just nothing new, nothing original, nothing unique. After all, what's another unpopular war in a distant land to citizens nowadays? The war in Iraq does not even approach the scale of our involvement in Vietnam, both in casualties and in years. Bush being a lame-duck president with one of the lowest popularity ratings? Come on now, as much as most of us might be happy that Bush is leaving, it does not compare to how relieved the entire nation was when Nixon left the White House. As a nation, we have been tried and tested. Been there, done that. We thought we wanted something different, we wanted something new.

And he showed up. Obama - someone different, he's of mixed parentage, someone new - a former US senator, supposedly uninitiated in Washington's ways. Calculative and ambitious - no other words describe a single term senator with nothing but a thin political resume as an Illinois state senator better; he capitalized on the current political situation, entering the race and then upstaging Hillary Clinton. Throned the US presidency and he is Barack Hussein Obama, the visionary, more than just a man, and definitely more than a woman. With the 'message of hope,' Obama arrived and will complete 100 days in office on April 29th. Uhh! Obama has been attributed the qualities of so many endearing American legends, including Abraham Lincoln (allegedly similar background and home state, Illinois), Ronald Reagan (alleged bi-partisanship) and John Kennedy (alleged good looks and oratory skills). Oh yes, and who can forget his mixed John Kennedy's religion issue cum Martin Luther King's moment as well, with his very own version of "I have a dream" speech. Jimmy Carter too, ran for President in a similar situation as Obama. There was another unpopular war - its name was Vietnam, there were high oil prices - which have climbed even higher now, and there had been a very unpopular president - his name was Nixon. Carter then, like Obama now, sensed the mood of the public and its need for something new, something different.

**Obama is a flicker
 of hope amid
 the imperialist
 darkness**
 Libhyan President
 Muammar Gaddafi

BARACK HUSSEIN OBAMA

Born August 4, 1961 (Kenya)	Parents Barack Obama, Jr. (from Kenya) & Ann Dunham (from Kansas)	Lives in Chicago Illinois	Education Graduated: Columbia University (1983) Law Degree from Harvard (1991)
Family Wife Michelle & two daughters Malia & Sasha	Religion United Church of Christ	Zodiac Leo	Height 1.87m

M Michelle Obama charms Britain, hugs queen

Michelle Obama's meeting with Queen Elizabeth II began with a handshake and ended in a hug that had the British press buzzing. The first lady arrived Wednesday with President Barack Obama. After separate meetings on the eve of the G-20 summit, the couple attended an evening reception for world leaders hosted by the queen. Mrs. Obama clearly made an impression with the 82-year-old monarch so much that the smiling queen strayed slightly from protocol and briefly wrapped her arm around the first lady in a rare public show of affection. It was the first time Mrs. Obama who is nearly a foot taller had met the queen. The first lady also wrapped her arm around the monarch's shoulder and back. A Buckingham Palace spokesman who asked not to be identified because of palace policy said he could not remember the last time the queen had displayed such public affection with a first lady or dignitary. "It was a mutual and spontaneous display of affection," he said. "We don't issue instructions on not touching the queen." When the former Australian Prime Minister Paul Keating put his arm around the queen in 1992, the tabloids dubbed him the "Lizard of Oz." When his successor, John Howard, was accused of doing the same, a spokesman insisted: "We firmly deny that there was any contact whatsoever." In 2007, President George W. Bush gave the queen a sly wink during a visit she paid to the United States. www.msnbc.msn.com

