



July 28, 2008 Monday

SHOW: VERDICT WITH DAN ABRAMS 9:00 PM EST

THE VERDICT for July 28, 2008

BYLINE: Dan Abrams

GUESTS: Wesley Clark, Jonathan Alter, Brad Blakeman, Roy Sekoff, Pam Bondi, Kim Serafin

HIGHLIGHT: The McCain camp is attacking Obama's patriotism. A new TV ad is suggesting he cares more about shooting hoops than spending time with injured troops.

DAN ABRAMS, HOST: Hi, everybody. Welcome to the show. Coming to you tonight live from Los Angeles.

The McCain camp is attacking Obama's patriotism, again. This time, a new TV ad is suggesting he cares more about shooting hoops than spending time with injured troops. The ad unleashed a rhetorical war today with the Obama camp accusing McCain of running a dishonorable campaign

-article cut-

ABRAMS: Coming up, new details in the case of that missing two-year-old whose mother waited over a month to report to her missing. A new jailhouse phone call from the mother. We've got it and we'll talk to her grandmother.

But, first, a new nonpartisan study finds that the press is tougher, that's right, tougher on Barack Obama than John McCain. The Center for Media and Public Affairs at George Mason University which has studied network news since the 1980s, analyzed coverage on ABC, CBS and NBC and found that when reporters, anchors and analysts expressed any opinion, they were significantly more negative toward Obama, 72 percent than to McCain, 57 percent. And the comments are only 28 percent positive for Obama, whereas 43 percent were positive for McCain. What happened to the liberal media?

Joining me now Roy Sekoff, the "Huffington Post" founding editor, and back with us is former Bush aide Brad Blakeman. Brad, where's the liberal media?

BRAD BLAKEMAN, FORMER BUSH AIDE: It is liberal. What kind of study is this? They take network news. Nobody is watching network news. They're all watching cable.

ABRAMS: Oh, yes.

-article cut-