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Siena College 19th Congressional District Poll:

Gibson's Lead Over Schreibman Down to 5 Points; Was 16

Schreibman Closes Independents' Gap; Leads in Southern Part of District

Obama Doubles Lead Over Romney & Now Has 8-Point Edge

Loudonville, NY. Republican Representative Chris Gibson's large 16-point lead in September (52-36 percent) has now become a narrow five-point lead, 48-43 percent, over Democratic challenger, Julian Schreibman, according to a new Siena College Research Institute poll of likely 19th C.D. voters released today.

Schreibman, who had trailed Gibson by 16 points among independent voters six weeks ago, has virtually pulled even, trailing 46-44 percent. Gibson maintains a large 25-point lead in the counties surrounding Albany (down from 35 points), however, Schreibman now leads in the Ulster and Dutchess Counties portion of the district by seven points, where he previously trailed by two points, and he has a tiny two-point edge in the western section of the district, where he previously trailed by 14 points. President Obama has doubled his lead over Mitt

Romney and now leads by a

margin of 50-42 percent.

"Gibson's comfortable 16-point lead six weeks ago has narrowed dramatically to a five-point lead with still one week until Election Day," said Siena College pollster Steven Greenberg.

"Schreibman has solidified his base among Democrats and now does almost as well with them as Gibson does with Republicans. Gibson's previous double digit lead among independent voters has

all but evaporated with Gibson holding a slim two-point lead," Greenberg said.

If the election was today, who would you vote for?				
		Chris Gibson	Julian Schreibman	Don't Know/ Not Voting
19th CD	Oct. 30	48%	43%	9%
	Sept. 21	52%	36%	12%
<i>Democrats</i>	Oct. 30	17%	74%	9%
	Sept. 21	21%	69%	10%
<i>Republicans</i>	Oct. 30	80%	13%	7%
	Sept. 21	83%	8%	8%
<i>Independents</i>	Oct. 30	46%	44%	9%
	Sept. 21	50%	34%	14%
Ulster/Dutchess	Oct. 30	42%	49%	9%
	Sept. 21	44%	42%	14%
Sullivan/Broome/Delaware/Otsego	Oct. 30	43%	45%	12%
	Sept. 21	51%	37%	10%
Montgomery/Schoharie/Greene/Columbia/Rensselaer	Oct. 30	59%	34%	7%
	Sept. 21	63%	28%	8%
Siena College Poll – October 30, 2012				

“Gibson maintains a large 15-point lead among those likely voters whom he represents in the current 20th C.D., although that’s down from 28 points previously. Schreiber had previously trailed by five points among voters who the Congressman does not currently represent, and now has a thin 46-44 percent edge.

“Schreiber’s previous seven-point deficit with women is now a tiny two-point advantage, and Gibson’s previous 25-point lead among men has tightened to 14 points,” Greenberg said. “By a two-to-one margin, likely voters say that Schreiber has been waging the more negative campaign.

“Gibson remains better known and better liked, and while Schreiber has become better known over the last six weeks, he is now viewed favorably by less than one-third of voters and unfavorably by one-third of voters,” Greenberg said. “Gibson has maintained a 15-point net positive favorability rating.

Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of ...?				
		Favorable	Unfavorable	Don't Know/ No Opinion
Chris Gibson	Oct. 30	46%	31%	22%
	Sept. 21	43%	28%	29%
Julian Schreiber	Oct. 30	30%	33%	37%
	Sept. 21	18%	18%	63%
Andrew Cuomo	Oct. 30	69%	24%	7%
	Sept. 21	67%	26%	7%
Barack Obama	Oct. 30	53%	44%	3%
	Sept. 21	49%	49%	2%
Mitt Romney	Oct. 30	44%	52%	4%
	Sept. 21	45%	52%	3%
Siena College Poll – October 30, 2012				

Obama Leads Romney by 4 Points

“As a result of increased support from independent voters, Obama has widened his lead over Romney to eight points in this district with a three-point Republican enrollment edge. Previously, Obama had a slim two-point edge with independents and he now leads by 12 points. Over the last six weeks, Romney’s favorability rating has stayed virtually the same and he is viewed unfavorably by a 52-44 percent margin. Obama’s favorability rating has improved to 53-44 percent up from a breakeven 49-49 percent,” Greenberg said.

“Two years ago, then challenger Gibson saw an early double digit deficit turn into a comfortable 10-point win. Now, incumbent Gibson has seen an early double digit lead turn into a narrow five-point lead, and he’s fallen below the magic 50 percent mark, with still one week of campaigning to go,” Greenberg said. “On one side of the equation, the question is whether Schreiber can build upon the momentum of the last few weeks and continue to close the gap or reverse it, with Obama running strong in the district. On the other side of the equation the question is whether Gibson can hold on to his shrinking lead and benefit from being better known, being viewed more favorably and from having a small Republican enrollment edge.”

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This Siena College 19th C.D. survey was conducted October 27-28, 2012 by telephone calls to 649 likely voters. A likely voter screen was applied to the sample of registered voters that had been statistically adjusted to reflect party registration, gender and age. It has a margin of error of ± 3.8 percentage points. The Siena College Research Institute, directed by Donald Levy, Ph.D., conducts political, economic, social and cultural research primarily in New York State. SRI, an independent, non-partisan research institute, subscribes to the American Association of Public Opinion Research Code of Professional Ethics and Practices. For more information, please call Steven Greenberg at 518-469-9858. Survey cross-tabulations and frequencies can be found at: www.Siena.edu/SRI/SNY.