



SIENA RESEARCH INSTITUTE

SIENA COLLEGE, LOUDONVILLE, NY

www.siena.edu/sri

For Immediate Release:

Monday March 3, 2008

Contact:

Steven Greenberg at 518-469-9858

PDF version; crosstabs; website:

www.siena.edu/sri/sny0208special

Siena New York Poll:

NYers & Dems Split On Whether Hillary Should Drop Out

Dems & Inds Satisfied with Choice of '08 Presidential Candidates

Favorable: Clinton, McCain, Obama; Unfavorable: Huckabee, Nader, Paul

Loudonville, NY. Democratic voters in New York State are nearly evenly divided on whether Senator Hillary Clinton should end her campaign after tomorrow's primaries if she continues to trail Senator Barack Obama, according to a new Siena (College) Research Institute poll of registered voters released today. A majority of Republicans and independent voters think she should end her campaign if she trails after tomorrow. The Siena New York poll shows that two-thirds of Democrats and more than half of independent voters are satisfied with the choices Americans have for president in 2008. A majority of Republicans are not satisfied. Four in five voters say they are closely or very closely following the race.

Nearly two-thirds of voters, including three-quarters of Democrats, say there is one candidate of the six current candidates (Clinton, Obama, Senator John McCain, former Governor Mike Huckabee, Congressman Ron Paul, and Ralph Nader) that they would describe themselves as a supporter of – they would encourage others to vote for that candidate, wear a campaign button or post a campaign sign. Among those voters, 36 percent describe themselves as Clinton supporters, 29 percent Obama supporters, and 23 percent McCain supporters. The other candidates are all in the low single digits.

“New York Democrats continue to have a strongly favorable view of Hillary, and she continues to be their top choice for president, yet they are nearly evenly divided on whether she should end her campaign after tomorrow if she does not have a strong showing,” said Steven Greenberg, Siena New York Poll spokesman. “Tomorrow’s mini-super Tuesday results are not only important in the four states voting, they are also important for Democrats across New York and likely the country in shaping how they feel about their party’s ongoing campaign for the presidential nomination.”

Siena New York Poll
March 3, 2008 – Page 2

Women are split on whether Clinton should end her campaign if she trails after tomorrow – 42 percent favor, 43 percent oppose. Men favor her ending her campaign 47-32 percent. Overall, 45 percent of voters favor her ending her campaign, 38 percent oppose.

“Even 28 percent of voters who describe themselves as Clinton supporters, think she should end her candidacy if she continues to trail Obama after tomorrow,” Greenberg said. “Not surprisingly, more than two-thirds of Obama supporters favor Clinton dropping out if she trails.”

Fifty-six percent of New York voters describe themselves as satisfied with the choice Americans have had for president this year, 42 percent are not very satisfied or not satisfied at all. There is, however, a large partisan difference in the answer to this question. Among Democrats, 67 percent are satisfied, 30 percent are not. Among Republicans, 41 percent are satisfied, while a majority 56 percent are not. Independent voters were in between with 54 percent satisfied and 43 percent not satisfied.

“While more than 80 percent of New York Republicans and Democrats have followed the presidential campaign closely, Democrats overwhelmingly liked the candidates they got to choose from, while Republicans did not,” Greenberg said. “Suburban voters were the most satisfied, upstate voters were evenly divided.”

Clinton’s favorable/unfavorable rating is 54-39 percent, up slightly from two weeks ago’s 53-43 percent. Obama’s 56-31 percent favorable rating is down slightly from 60-30 percent. McCain’s favorable rating fell to 48-41 percent, down from 55-34 percent. Huckabee, 26-50 percent, Paul, 14-48 percent, and Nader, 12-65 percent, all get significantly unfavorable ratings from New York voters.

###



SIENA RESEARCH INSTITUTE

SIENA COLLEGE, LOUDONVILLE, NY

www.siena.edu/sri

Siena New York Poll Trends – March 3, 2008

Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Hillary Clinton?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
March 3, 2008	54	39	7
February 2008	53	43	4
January 2008	60	35	5
December 2007	51	44	5
November 2007	55	39	6
October 2007	53	41	6
September 2007	57	37	7
July 2007	59	35	6
June 2007	54	39	7
May 2007	56	39	5
April 2007	50	42	7
March 2007	56	37	8
February 2007	56	40	5
January 2007	60	33	7
November 15, 2006	65	29	6
November 3, 2006	61	33	6
October 2006	56	38	6
September 2006	60	37	4
August 2006	54	38	7
June 2006	54	38	8
May 2006	58	36	6
March 2006	55	39	6
January 2006	60	37	3
November 2005	60	34	6
October 2005	59	35	6
August 2005	59	37	4
July 2005	60	34	6
June 2005	60	33	7
May 2005	58	35	7
April 2005	60	33	6
March 2005	58	34	8
February 2005	61	33	6

Siena New York Poll Trends – March 3, 2008

Page 2

Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Barack Obama?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
March 3, 2008	56	31	13
February 2008	60	30	10
January 2008	57	28	15
December 2007	55	30	15
September 2007	56	24	20
June 2007	53	24	23
May 2007	58	22	20
April 2007	55	23	22
March 2007	52	20	28
February 2007	52	21	28
January 2007	50	17	34
November 15, 2006	48	12	40

Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about John McCain?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
March 3, 2008	48	41	11
February 2008	55	34	11
January 2008	56	27	17
December 2007	53	29	18
June 2007	43	39	19
May 2007	42	44	14
April 2007	45	39	15
March 2007	45	34	21
February 2007	47	33	19
January 2007	51	29	21
November 15, 2006	56	24	20

Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Mike Huckabee?

DATE	FAVORABLE	UNFAVORABLE	DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION
March 3, 2008	26	50	24
December 2007	25	24	52

Siena Research Institute - 02/25/08 - 02/27/08 624 completes +/- 3.9%

1. How closely would you say you are following the current presidential election campaign?

	Total	Party			GENDER		Region			Ethnic			AGE			Religion			
		Dem	Rep	Ind./ Other	M	F	NYC	NYC Suburbs	Upstate	White	Afr.Am./ Black	Latino	18-34	35-54	55+	Cath.	Jewish	Prot.	Other
very closely	39%	44%	34%	36%	46%	32%	42%	42%	34%	41%	49%	22%	25%	33%	47%	39%	50%	40%	36%
closely	41%	38%	49%	40%	37%	46%	34%	44%	46%	43%	35%	44%	48%	47%	36%	41%	39%	44%	41%
not very closely	17%	15%	15%	21%	15%	20%	19%	14%	17%	15%	10%	33%	25%	18%	14%	19%	8%	14%	20%
not at all	2%	2%	2%	3%	3%	1%	3%	0%	3%	1%	4%	0%	3%	2%	2%	1%	3%	3%	3%
don't know/no opinion	1%	1%	1%	0%	0%	1%	1%	0%	0%	0%	3%	0%	0%	0%	1%	0%	0%	0%	1%

Turning to the current candidates, please tell me whether you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of each. [Names asked in rotated order]

2a. Barack Obama

	Total	Party			GENDER		Region			Ethnic			AGE			Religion			
		Dem	Rep	Ind./ Other	M	F	NYC	NYC Suburbs	Upstate	White	Afr.Am./ Black	Latino	18-34	35-54	55+	Cath.	Jewish	Prot.	Other
favorable	56%	64%	43%	58%	56%	57%	64%	61%	45%	50%	83%	72%	71%	61%	49%	53%	48%	54%	63%
unfavorable	31%	26%	42%	28%	34%	28%	26%	25%	41%	36%	8%	6%	18%	27%	37%	36%	39%	33%	23%
don't know/no opinion	13%	10%	15%	13%	10%	15%	10%	13%	15%	13%	8%	22%	11%	12%	14%	11%	13%	13%	14%

2b. Hillary Clinton

	Total	Party			GENDER		Region			Ethnic			AGE			Religion			
		Dem	Rep	Ind./ Other	M	F	NYC	NYC Suburbs	Upstate	White	Afr.Am./ Black	Latino	18-34	35-54	55+	Cath.	Jewish	Prot.	Other
favorable	54%	71%	28%	52%	47%	61%	63%	42%	53%	51%	63%	67%	54%	53%	54%	50%	60%	52%	58%
unfavorable	39%	23%	67%	38%	45%	33%	31%	50%	40%	44%	24%	28%	37%	41%	38%	45%	34%	42%	33%
don't know/no opinion	7%	6%	5%	10%	8%	6%	6%	8%	8%	5%	14%	6%	9%	6%	8%	6%	6%	6%	10%

2c. John McCain

	Total	Party			GENDER		Region			Ethnic			AGE			Religion			
		Dem	Rep	Ind./ Other	M	F	NYC	NYC Suburbs	Upstate	White	Afr.Am./ Black	Latino	18-34	35-54	55+	Cath.	Jewish	Prot.	Other
favorable	48%	34%	69%	51%	52%	43%	39%	61%	48%	53%	25%	39%	40%	50%	48%	56%	50%	53%	35%
unfavorable	41%	56%	22%	37%	40%	43%	52%	31%	38%	37%	61%	39%	45%	41%	41%	35%	40%	34%	53%
don't know/no opinion	11%	11%	9%	12%	8%	14%	9%	9%	14%	10%	14%	22%	15%	9%	11%	9%	10%	13%	11%

2d. Mike Huckabee

	Total	Party			GENDER		Region			Ethnic			AGE			Religion			
		Dem	Rep	Ind./ Other	M	F	NYC	NYC Suburbs	Upstate	White	Afr.Am./ Black	Latino	18-34	35-54	55+	Cath.	Jewish	Prot.	Other
favorable	26%	20%	37%	22%	26%	26%	19%	32%	28%	29%	19%	11%	25%	22%	29%	33%	13%	30%	19%
unfavorable	50%	59%	40%	50%	55%	46%	59%	49%	43%	48%	56%	61%	52%	53%	47%	45%	63%	52%	51%
don't know/no opinion	24%	21%	23%	28%	20%	28%	23%	19%	28%	22%	25%	28%	23%	24%	24%	22%	24%	18%	30%

2e. Ron Paul																			
	Total	Party			GENDER		Region			Ethnic			AGE			Religion			
		Dem	Rep	Ind./ Other	M	F	NYC	NYC Suburbs	Upstate	White	Afr.Am./ Black	Latino	18-34	35-54	55+	Cath.	Jewish	Prot.	Other
favorable	14%	11%	16%	15%	17%	11%	14%	13%	15%	15%	17%		12%	12%	16%	12%	8%	17%	16%
unfavorable	48%	51%	46%	45%	52%	43%	51%	50%	44%	47%	40%	61%	51%	47%	48%	48%	53%	52%	44%
don't know/no opinion	38%	38%	38%	41%	31%	46%	35%	37%	41%	38%	43%	39%	37%	42%	36%	39%	39%	31%	40%

2f. Ralph Nader																			
	Total	Party			GENDER		Region			Ethnic			AGE			Religion			
		Dem	Rep	Ind./ Other	M	F	NYC	NYC Suburbs	Upstate	White	Afr.Am./ Black	Latino	18-34	35-54	55+	Cath.	Jewish	Prot.	Other
favorable	12%	12%	14%	10%	15%	10%	10%	14%	13%	12%	8%	17%	20%	11%	11%	11%	6%	14%	15%
unfavorable	65%	68%	65%	59%	67%	63%	70%	61%	63%	66%	61%	61%	51%	62%	70%	66%	82%	62%	60%
don't know/no opinion	23%	20%	21%	31%	18%	27%	19%	25%	25%	21%	31%	22%	29%	26%	19%	24%	11%	24%	24%

3. Regardless of how you voted in the primary or intend to vote in November, is there one candidate of the six current candidates that you would describe yourself as a supporter of, in other words would you encourage others to vote for that candidate, wear a campaign button or post a campaign sign?

	Total	Party			GENDER		Region			Ethnic			AGE			Religion			
		Dem	Rep	Ind./ Other	M	F	NYC	NYC Suburbs	Upstate	White	Afr.Am./ Black	Latino	18-34	35-54	55+	Cath.	Jewish	Prot.	Other
yes	64%	74%	62%	54%	68%	61%	72%	58%	61%	62%	78%	72%	72%	61%	65%	66%	63%	63%	63%
no	29%	19%	31%	36%	27%	30%	21%	36%	31%	31%	14%	17%	20%	31%	28%	28%	29%	28%	29%
unsure	6%	6%	6%	8%	5%	7%	7%	5%	6%	6%	7%	11%	6%	7%	5%	6%	6%	7%	6%
refused	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	2%	1%	2%	1%	1%	1%	0%	2%	1%	2%	0%	2%	2%	2%

4. [if yes] Who do you support? [DO NOT READ CHOICES]

	Total	Party			GENDER		Region			Ethnic			AGE			Religion			
		Dem	Rep	Ind./ Other	M	F	NYC	NYC Suburbs	Upstate	White	Afr.Am./ Black	Latino	18-34	35-54	55+	Cath.	Jewish	Prot.	Other
Barack Obama	29%	40%	9%	28%	31%	27%	37%	30%	20%	22%	66%	23%	38%	35%	22%	23%	21%	32%	38%
Hillary Clinton	36%	49%	17%	30%	29%	44%	38%	28%	39%	36%	25%	69%	38%	31%	39%	36%	41%	27%	39%
John McCain	23%	6%	57%	24%	25%	22%	17%	31%	25%	30%	0%	8%	15%	22%	26%	32%	33%	22%	11%
Mike Huckabee	4%	1%	7%	4%	5%	2%	1%	2%	8%	4%	0%	0%	2%	5%	3%	2%	0%	7%	5%
Ron Paul	2%	0%	5%	5%	2%	2%	1%	3%	4%	3%	0%	0%	2%	3%	2%	3%	0%	3%	2%
Ralph Nader	1%	1%	1%	3%	2%	1%	1%	1%	1%	2%	0%	0%	4%	1%	1%	1%	3%	1%	2%
don't know/no opinion	5%	3%	5%	5%	6%	3%	5%	5%	3%	4%	9%	0%	0%	3%	6%	4%	3%	8%	4%

5. To what degree are you satisfied with the choices we as Americans have had for president in this campaign. Are you.....																			
		Party			GENDER		Region			Ethnic			AGE			Religion			
	Total	Dem	Rep	Ind./ Other	M	F	NYC	NYC Suburbs	Upstate	White	Afr.Am./ Black	Latino	18-34	35-54	55+	Cath.	Jewish	Prot.	Other
completely satisfied	9%	14%	3%	7%	9%	8%	11%	8%	7%	8%	15%	11%	12%	8%	9%	7%	10%	11%	9%
satisfied	47%	53%	38%	47%	44%	49%	47%	52%	43%	45%	57%	72%	49%	51%	43%	49%	39%	43%	48%
not very satisfied	32%	23%	39%	34%	32%	31%	28%	29%	38%	33%	19%	11%	29%	30%	34%	34%	27%	34%	30%
not at all satisfied	10%	7%	17%	9%	12%	8%	10%	10%	10%	12%	4%	6%	6%	9%	12%	8%	23%	11%	9%
no opinion	3%	2%	2%	3%	2%	4%	4%	2%	2%	2%	4%	0%	3%	2%	3%	2%	2%	1%	5%

6. Are you in favor or opposed to Hillary Clinton ending her campaign if after the next round of primaries on March 4th she continues to trail Barack Obama in the pledged delegate count?

		Party			GENDER		Region			Ethnic			AGE			Religion			
	Total	Dem	Rep	Ind./ Other	M	F	NYC	NYC Suburbs	Upstate	White	Afr.Am./ Black	Latino	18-34	35-54	55+	Cath.	Jewish	Prot.	Other
in favor	45%	41%	54%	41%	47%	42%	40%	55%	42%	45%	49%	61%	52%	53%	36%	48%	39%	44%	42%
opposed	38%	43%	33%	34%	32%	43%	36%	32%	43%	37%	33%	22%	37%	32%	42%	36%	39%	39%	39%
don't know	15%	15%	10%	23%	18%	13%	21%	10%	13%	15%	15%	17%	8%	13%	19%	13%	18%	16%	17%
refused	3%	2%	3%	1%	3%	2%	3%	3%	2%	2%	3%	0%	3%	2%	3%	3%	5%	1%	2%