



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: June 2, 2008

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POLL: BROWN LEADS GOP FRONTRUNNERS OSE & McCLINTOCK

Retired USAF Lt. Col. to Gather with Supporters for Primary Night Celebration in Old Roseville

ROSEVILLE: On Primary election eve in the race for California's 4th Congressional District, Charlie Brown has released recent polling that shows him leading both Doug Ose and Tom McClintock in a potential general election matchup.

The survey of 400 likely General Election voters was conducted by Pete Brodnitz of the Benenson Strategy Group on May 14th and 15th. The margin of error was +/- 4.9%.

Despite a \$4 million advertising blitz by the GOP frontrunners, the poll shows Brown leading Ose 38% to 34%, and leading McClintock 42% to 40%.

The survey also showed a generic ballot between the Democratic and Republican candidates for Congress tied at 43%, with self identification of voters moving sharply away from the often cited voter registration statistics of the district.

"The numbers confirm that district four voters want real local leadership, and they want change," Brown said. "No matter which career politician wins the GOP Primary on Tuesday night, this race will continue to offer a clear contrast between a partisan approach that has failed America, and a country first approach that leads by example to solve problems."

A full poll summary memo from Brodnitz, who was named "Pollster of the Year" in 2007 by the American Association of Political Consultants, is attached to this release.

On Tuesday Night, Brown will gather with supporters at the newly opened Basic Urban Kitchen and Bar in Roseville to watch election returns. More information on the event is below.

Who: Retired USAF Lt. Col. Charlie Brown, Volunteers and Supporters (Brown will be available for Press Interviews on site, or by calling 916-397-1131)

What: Charlie Brown for Congress Primary Night Celebration

Where: Basic Urban Kitchen and Bar, 112 Pacific Street, Ste. 100, Roseville, CA 95678

When: June 3rd, 8-11 p.m.

Retired Lt. Col. Charlie Brown spent 26 years in the U.S. Air Force, flying rescue helicopters at the end of the Vietnam War, piloting reconnaissance missions around the world, and coordinating a variety of intelligence collection assets. His decorations include the Distinguished Flying Cross, Sikorsky Winged S, 7 Air Medals, and 5 Meritorious Service Medals. Charlie's wife Jan is also a veteran, and his son has served four rotations in Iraq with the Air Force. A graduate of the U.S. Air Force Academy, Brown also owns a California teaching credential and served 8 years on the Professional Staff of the Roseville Police Department. He is a candidate for Congress in California's 4th District.

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To: Charlie Brown
 From: Pete Brodnitz
 Date: May 16, 2008
 Re: Poll of Congressional District 4 Voters

Charlie Brown is leading both his possible opponents. Brown benefits from higher net favorability than both of his potential GOP opponents even though GOP spent about \$2 million against Brown when he last ran for Congress and even though Brown is being compared with two established politicians who have already spent more on this race than Brown has spent in two races combined. Brown also benefits from a sharp trend in the district toward a Democratic candidate, which is evident in partisan identification, the fact that favorability toward Obama and McCain are comparable, and on the generic ballot for Congress.

Voters Want Change

7 in 10 voters are pessimistic about the direction of the country, up sharply from our poll just before the 2006 election where a bare majority (51%) believed the nation was headed down the wrong track. Voters are unhappy with the way things are going and want change.

In general, do you think that things in the nation are heading in the right direction or are they headed off on the wrong track?		
	All	
	October '06	May '08
Right direction	30	18
Wrong track	51	70
Don't know	19	12

Despite a 48% to 31% GOP party registration advantage, the major parties are almost at parity in terms of the number of voters who identify themselves as Democrats or Republicans. The GOP advantage on party self-identification is now 2%, which is down from 15% in August of 2006.

In general, do you consider yourself a strong Democrat, a weak Democrat, a strong Republican, a weak Republican or an Independent?		
	All	
	August '06	May '08
Democrat	27	35
Republican	42	37
Independent/no affiliation	31	28

It is also important to keep in mind that a plurality of district voters are moderate, not conservative: 42% say they are moderate, compared with 37% who are conservative and 17% who are liberal.

Generic Ballot Tied

The generic Democratic and Republican candidate for Congress are tied at 43%. Republicans face trouble, as 17% of registered Republicans support the generic Democrat, and the Democrat leads by 16% among Independents.

If the election for Congress was held today would you prefer to vote for a ... for Congress?				
Q21	All	Party Reg		
		Dem	DTS	Rep
<i>Difference</i>	0	71	16	-53
Democratic Candidate	43	78	50	17
Republican Candidate	43	7	34	70
Don't Know	15	15	17	13

Brown Beats Both Republican Opponents

Brown is in good position as we head into the 2008 general election he has a 4% advantage over Ose - Brown receives 38%, Ose 34%, and 27% are undecided. Brown also leads McClintock 42% to 40% (18% are undecided). Independent swing voters prefer Brown over both Ose and McClintock by 20 and 21 points respectively. Both possible opponents have trouble retaining Republican support - a higher percentage of Republicans defect toward Brown than Democrats defect toward either Republican candidate.

If the election for Congress in your district was held today, and the candidates were...for whom would you vote? Which candidate do you lean toward?				
	All	Party Reg		
		Dem	DTS	Rep
Brown vs. Ose				
<i>Difference</i>	4	50	20	-32
Charlie Brown, Lieutenant Colonel Retired, Democrat	38	62	48	19
Doug Ose, Business Owner, Republican	34	12	28	51
Don't Know	27	26	24	30
Brown vs. McClintock				
<i>Difference</i>	2	52	21	-39
Charlie Brown, Lieutenant Colonel Retired, Democrat	42	65	53	22
Tom McClintock, California State Senator, Republican	40	13	32	61
Don't Know	18	21	16	17

As the table below shows, Brown's has higher net favorability than McClintock because while McClintock has higher favorable ratings, he also has significantly higher unfavorable ratings as well. It is also notable that Obama and McCain have almost identical ratings despite the GOP heritage of the 4th CD.

Ranked by % Very Favorable	All		Net Favorable
	% Very Favorable	% Total Favorable/ Unfavorable	
Barack Obama	31	57/34	+23
John McCain	21	58/35	+25
George W. Bush	17	38/58	-20
Charlie Brown	16	36/18	+18
Tom McClintock	14	39/29	+10
John Doolittle	11	32/48	-16
Doug Ose	11	27/28	-1

The Benenson Strategy Group conducted 400 interviews in California Congressional District 4 with likely 2008 general election voters May 14 - 15, 2008. The margin of error is $\pm 4.9\%$. The Benenson Strategy Group's clients include Governor Tim Kaine (VA), Senator Jim Webb (VA), and Barack Obama's campaign for President. Peter Brodnitz, who conducted this survey, was named "Pollster of the Year" by the American Association of Political Consultants last year for his work for Kaine, Webb and the Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee. It is a bi-partisan award given to one pollster per election year.