THEY’RE OFF!
AN ANALYSIS OF THE
2007 SARATOGA
SPRINGS CITY COUNCIL
ELECTION
Methodology

• Random sample of registered voters from Board of Elections
• Poll conducted Nov 7-11 by 13 members of Who Governs Saratoga Springs class
• 233 respondents
• 32 Question Phone Survey
  – ½ received questions on mayoral race
  – ½ received questions on public works race

• Survey and data available at: http://www.skidmore.edu/~bturner/election_07.htm
The Changing Political Landscape of Saratoga Springs

Margaret Relle
Emma Lande
Ben Vail
Closeness of Mayoral Elections

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Candidate</th>
<th>1999</th>
<th>2001</th>
<th>2003</th>
<th>2005</th>
<th>2007</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Klotz</td>
<td>50.6%</td>
<td>57.2%</td>
<td>49.3%</td>
<td>50.9%</td>
<td>53.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>O'Connell</td>
<td>49.4%</td>
<td></td>
<td>42.8%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Song</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lenz</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>50.7%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Keehn</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>49.1%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Johnson</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>47.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
# Party Majority in City Council by Election Cycle

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year Period</th>
<th>City Council Majority</th>
<th>Mayor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1994-1995</td>
<td>4-1</td>
<td>A.C. Dake</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1996-1997</td>
<td>3-2</td>
<td>O'Connell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1998-1999</td>
<td>4-1</td>
<td>O'Connell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000-2001</td>
<td>2-3</td>
<td>Klotz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2002-2003</td>
<td>3-2</td>
<td>Klotz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004-2005</td>
<td>3-2</td>
<td>Lenz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006-2007</td>
<td>0-5</td>
<td>Keehn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008-2009</td>
<td>3-2</td>
<td>Johnson</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Voter Turnout in Mayoral Elections

![Graph showing voter turnout from 1995 to 2007. The turnout was relatively low in 1995, increased significantly in 2001, peaked in 2003, and has since declined slightly.](image-url)
2007 Mayoral Election, Saratoga Springs, NY

Legend
2007 Results
Mayor Percentage (Red = Republican)
- 0.05 - 0.43
- 0.48 - 0.52
- 0.53 - 0.63
What was the last grade the electorate completed in school?
Changing Demographics of Saratoga Springs

**0-10 years**
- 78%
- 10%
- 12%

**10+ years**
- 61%
- 22%
- 13%
- 3%
- 1%

Legend:
- Blue: Some High School
- Green: Technical/Vocation
- Red: Graduate High School
- Purple: Some College
- Teal: Graduated College +
In politics today do you consider yourself Conservative, Moderate, or Liberal
Would you say that things in Saratoga Springs are going in the right direction, or have they gotten off track?
When would you say you made your final decision in this election?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Before September</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>During September</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>During October</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Last few days before the election</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Day of the Election</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Which was the MOST important issue in deciding on how you would vote in this year's City Council election?
Saratoga Springs Democrats:
Divided and Conquered

Will Sharry
Jason Ludwig
Chris Iredale
Party Registration Data

Percent of Registered Voters In Saratoga Springs

- Republican: 41%
- Democrat: 31%
- No Party: 21%
- Minor Party: 7%

Source: Saratoga County Board of Elections, 2007
Do you consider yourself a Democrat, a Republican or something else?

Party Affiliation in Saratoga Springs

Percent of Voters

- 20% Republican
- 39% Democrat
- 41% Something Else
Do you consider yourself a strong or a not so strong Republican/Democrat?
If you consider yourself something else, do you tend to lean to the Republican or Democrat side?
Ideological Makeup

Democrats
- Conservative: 9%
- Moderate: 42%
- Liberal: 49%

Republicans
- Conservative: 38%
- Moderate: 8%
- Liberal: 54%
Mayoral Votes by Partisanship

Republicans
41% of Saratoga Springs Voters

Democrats
39% of Saratoga Springs Voters

SomethingElse
20% of Saratoga Springs Voters

Keehn
Johnson
Revenge of the Keehn Voters

Keehn Voters Support Scirocco

- 70% Scirocco
- 30% McTygue

Scirocco Vote

- 57% Keehn Voters
- 40% Johnson Voters
- 3% Other
McTygue Democrats Strike Back

McTygue Voters Support Johnson
- Johnson: 67%
- Keehn: 33%

Johnson Vote
- Johnson: 65%
- Sciracco: 33%
- Other: 2%
Saratoga Springs
Mayoral Campaign

Dan Papson
Rainey Ferdinand
Nick Laracuente
Mayoral Race: A Relative Landslide?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Margin of Voters</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td>250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>450</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Votes for Mayor

- Keehn: 44%
- Johnson: 50%
- Boyd: 6%
As applied to all voters:

- Received Mail
- Met Candidate
- Saw Commercial

Campaign Techniques

- Keehn
- Johnson
Issues

THE SARATOGIAN’S QUESTIONNAIRE TO SCOTT JOHNSON
(Answers limited to 100 words) Published October 30, 2007

1. What is the single biggest priority for city government in the next two years?

My top priority is restoring civility and leadership to the City Council. I will work to unite, not divide, our community and reach cooperative solutions to the challenges facing us. The
I’ve opened City government, and brought new people onto our Boards. We’ve begun to control over-development, and to move the City toward a better future.

The job isn’t done. Our choice is to keep going forward or to risk losing the good beginning we’ve made together. I want to go on doing your work, and I ask for a second term to do just that.

Keep Valerie Keehn working for us.
Re-elect The People’s Mayor.
“Civility in City Government”

“Which candidate running for MAYOR you believe would do the best job restoring civility to city government?”
“In terms of personal characteristics, which candidate for MAYOR do you believe would be able to work with others?”
“Which ONE of the following issues was MOST important to you in deciding how to vote in the City Council elections?”
“Which ONE of the following issues was MOST important to you in deciding how to vote in the City Council elections?”
“Which ONE of the following issues was MOST important to you in deciding how to vote in the City Council elections?”
“Which ONE of the following issues was MOST important to you in deciding how to vote in the City Council elections?”
Commissioner of Public Works
Race: Civility and Integrity Trump Experience

Phil Cassidy, Jon Bubier & Doug Yeates
Vote for Commissioner of Public Works

Reference: Saratoga County Board of Elections
Official Election Results

McTygue 38.5%
Scirocco 61.5%
• Most experienced candidate

• Preserving open space

McTYGUE for PUBLIC WORKS

www.McTYGUEforCommissioner.com
Which candidate do you believe is most experienced?
Of the voters who felt McTygue was the most experienced candidate.
Which candidate do you believe would do a better job of managing the Public Works Department?

Percentages don’t add up to 100% because those who answered “both”, “neither”, and “don’t know” are not shown.
Which was the MOST important issue in deciding on how you would vote in this year's City Council election?
Percentages don’t add up to 100% because those who answered “both”, “neither”, and “don’t know” are not shown.

Which candidate do you think would work well with others?
Which candidate do you believe would be the most honest and ethical?

Percentages don’t add up to 100% because those who answered “both”, “neither”, and “don’t know” are not shown.
Percentages don’t add up to 100% because those who answered “both”, “neither”, and “don’t know” are not shown.

Which candidate do you believe would do the best job of preserving open space?
Which candidate do you believe would do the best job of finding a new drinking water source?

Percentages don’t add up to 100% because those who answered “both”, “neither”, and “don’t know” are not shown.
Which candidate for Commissioner of Public Works do you believe would be the most honest and ethical?

*Numbers do not add to 100% because those that chose “neither”, “both”, or “don’t know” are not
Of the people who voted for Val Keehn for Mayor…

Which candidate did you vote for in the race for Commissioner of Public works?

- Scirocco: 68%
- McTygue: 29%
- Refused: 13%
A special thank you goes out to:
- Patrick Lanne
- Matt Dill and Matt Dorsey
- Saratoga County Board of Elections
- CITS
- Residents of Saratoga Springs
- Alex Chaucer
- Robert Turner

Acknowledgments:
- Patrick Lanne
- Matt Dill and Matt Dorsey
- Saratoga County Board of Elections
- CITS
- Residents of Saratoga Springs
- Alex Chaucer
- Robert Turner
Questions?

Our results, data, and surveys will be available on Professor Turner’s website, at: http://www.skidmore.edu/~bturner/election_07