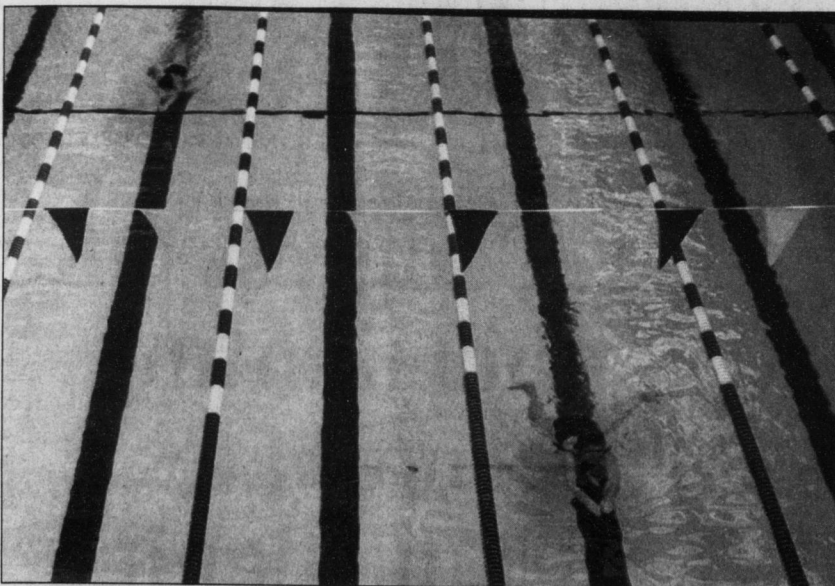


MAKING WAVES



DTH/MIRANDA HARPLE

Sophomore Ashleigh Martin (left) and psychology graduate student Mary Michael (right) swim in the Bowman Gray Indoor Pool on Tuesday afternoon. The pool is located between Woollen and Fetzer Gyms and is just one of the many campus recreation facilities students are free to use with their UNC ONE Cards. The recreation facilities are open on a reduced schedule for students on campus.

Translator tells Iraq stories

Supports building strong democracy

BY KATHERINE TOMPKINS  
STAFF WRITER

Every member of Humala Aqrawee's family suffered under former President Saddam Hussein's regime in Iraq.

Her brother was killed in 1991, and her family was sent his arm and leg.

Her father was tortured and no longer has use of his hands.

Most recently, terrorists searching for Aqrawee mistakenly found and killed her sister instead. American media outlets even have reported Aqrawee as dead.

"When they killed my sister I didn't give up," she told more than 20 people during a speech Tuesday at UNC about the American occupation of Iraq and the efforts to build democracy.

"Three days after I learned, my family forced me out of the house and made me keep working. It was really hard, but I had to keep going. After September 11, America cannot give up. We need the support you are trying to extend."

The event was sponsored by the Foundation for the Defense of Democracies and co-sponsored by the UNC Young Democrats, UNC College Republicans and the Carolina Troop Supporters.

Aqrawee, who speaks English, French, Arabic, and two dialects of Kurdish, traveled with the 101st Airborne Division of the U.S. Army during the war in Iraq, translating between the troops and citizens of Iraq.

"I am here to speak for the Iraqi people and show you that we want the help of American troops in building democracy," she said. "Your media only shows what is negative and never shows that Iraqi people are supportive."

Aqrawee said the help of Americans has transformed the country.

"For the first time we can drink healthy water, every home has two vehicles and our schools no longer teach classes about Saddam Hussein."

Sarah Long, a sophomore psychology major, said some of what Aqrawee revealed about life in Iraq surprised her. "I was really surprised to learn they didn't have Internet," she said.

During her speech, Aqrawee also said women are already participating in politics and government affairs. The upcoming election in January will be the first democratic election in the country's history.

"The Iraqi people have been looking to being treated equally and having democracy," she said. "Under Saddam we have seen our fathers, sisters, brothers and mothers beaten and killed right in front of us." Aqrawee said that here in the



DTH/ERIN ANDREWS

Humala Aqrawee, an Iraqi translator, speaks to students about democracy and the liberation of Iraq on Tuesday afternoon.

United States, she supports any presidential candidate who will continue to build democracy.

"We support whoever won't give up on us," she said. "Iraq is like a child that needs to have its hand held while we learn how everything will work. You are our liberators, and you will always be our liberators."

But Long said testimonies from people like Aqrawee still might not convince people that U.S. troops should still be in Iraq. "While I did get a new perspective on the positive effects of American occupation, I still have strong reservations about the U.S. being there."

Contact the State & National Editor at stntdesk@unc.edu.

2nd gubernatorial wrangle set for 7 p.m. Friday

BY ERIN GIBSON

ASSISTANT STATE & NATIONAL EDITOR

While UNC students enjoy the first break of the semester, gubernatorial candidates Patrick Ballantine and Gov. Mike Easley will battle at 7 p.m. Friday for the last time before the election.

The candidates will be asked questions in a sit-down style debate moderated by David Crabtree at the WRAL-TV5 station in Raleigh.

This final debate will cover a range of issues, unlike the first

debate, which only covered education.

Schorr Johnson, communications director for the N.C. Democratic Party, said the key issues likely will be job creation, health care and education because they are the issues North Carolinians are focusing on during this year's election.

He said the debate will allow Easley to address all the issues and talk about his leadership as governor throughout the last four years.

"I hope we hear some sense of

where they would take the state in the future," said Ferrel Guillory, director of UNC's Program on Southern Politics, Media and Public Life.

He said it is important with only 20 days left before the election for the candidates to give voters a clear view of what they will do if elected.

The first debate focused on education, but the candidates got caught up in a battle of their own. Experts say viewers can expect some of that tension again.

"Campaigns are competitions. They do put candidates under stress," Guillory said. "You're going to have some fire and heat."

But he said that the arguing did not benefit either candidate and that they should spend a few moments thinking about their plan for the future.

"They ought to add an extra dimension to this debate," he said. "(They should) talk about jobs,

the economy and how the state is developing."

Johnson and Guillory both said the candidates' records will be brought up in this debate, and even should be.

"(Easley) will be in full campaign mode," Johnson said. "Easley will talk about his record ... and Ballantine's record is fair game."

In a WRAL News poll released Oct. 1, Easley leads Ballantine 53 to 36 percent with only 11 percent undecided. In July, Easley led Ballantine 50 to 28 percent with 22 percent undecided.

Ballantine has gained some support, but pundits say he still needs to gain more before elections in order to remove Easley from office.

Ballantine's campaign office did not return phone calls by press time.

Contact the State & National Editor at stntdesk@unc.edu.

Domestic policy to take stage during last battle

BY ERIN GIBSON

ASSISTANT STATE & NATIONAL EDITOR

President Bush and opponent Sen. John Kerry will face off for the third and final time at 9 p.m. tonight in Arizona State University's Gammage Auditorium.

The candidates will discuss domestic issues through questions presented by a moderator in a set-up similar to the first debate.

Matt Beckmann, a professor of political science at the University of California-Irvine, said he hopes the candidates will come out with their plans for the future.

"If you're elected, what will you do first?" he said.

Beckmann said it is hard sometimes to get that information because the candidates are so well rehearsed on what to say and what phrases work best.

But he added that not being specific can be helpful for the candidates, as long as they get the basic idea across to the viewers.

During the last month of campaigning, he said it is the candidates' job to explain their positions and the voters' civic duty to find out more.

Experts have varying opinions on who will leave tonight's debate on top. Some say the setting favors Kerry, but others say Bush could shine through.

"If it is set up like the first debate, the advantage is for Kerry," said Joel Aberbach, a political science professor at the University of California-Los Angeles.

Kerry has the stage presence for a formal debate, Aberbach said, and he looked more like a president during the first debate.

Matthew Baum, a political science professor at UCLA, also said Kerry could have the advantage because tonight's topics are what he has focused on during the campaign.

But Baum is not completely sure that Kerry will win.

"The irony is that Bush is often more eloquent with domestic topics," he said.

Baum also said the president obviously has learned from his mistakes during the first debate.

He said that throughout the second debate, Bush did not make as many facial gestures and performed better than the first time.

Others say Bush has the advantage because he holds the office both candidates seek.

"There is an incumbency advantage to being President Bush," Beckmann said. "There is a pagantry associated with the office, not necessarily the individual."

He also said it is the competitor's job to show how he can do better and why he should replace his opponent. "Kerry, I think, has to continue to push that Bush has screwed up the long-term economy," Aberbach said.

"Bush has to try to convince people that despite the first debate, he is up to the challenge ... and that Kerry is not up to the job."

Contact the State & National Editor at stntdesk@unc.edu.

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with host **Stuart Scott**

**PARKING FOR FRIDAY**  
Beginning Tuesday, Oct. 12th at 8am, you can get a permit to park on campus for Thursday & Friday, Oct. 14-15. Students should bring a valid driver's license, student identification card, vehicle registration and proof of insurance when coming to purchase a permit. Campus permits will be sold for the Ehringhaus Field lot, Boshamer lot and Manning lot and will cost \$2.00 per day (regularly \$6.00 per day). Students normally having a parking permit for the PR lot will be eligible to purchase these on-campus permits, as well as students that normally do not have a parking permit.

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