

Ethnic violence disrupts Kibera relief

Date to return still uncertain

BY REBECCA PUTTERMAN
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In hopes of dispelling ethnic tensions in Kibera, aid workers encouraged the youth of this slum of Nairobi, Kenya, to cast aside their differences to play multi-ethnic soccer teams.

Yet the very ethnic tension that the nongovernmental organization Carolina For Kibera was hoping to calm came to a head last week as Kenya's tribes clashed violently in protest of the December election results, forcing even peace-keeping efforts to shut down.

The two main ethnic tribes of Kenya were pitted against each other in elections that were allegedly rigged in favor of presidential incumbent Mwai Kibaki's historically wealthy tribe, the Kikuyu.

After the initial outburst, whole villages in the Kibera slum were reduced to charred ruins.

"We have a situation where swaths of Kibera have been burned to the ground and hundreds of families have been displaced," said Emily Pierce, vice president for development and former volunteer at CFK.

"And a lot of youth members of CFK's program have been affected by the burning and the lack of food, and they've lost everything."

In the midst of week-long violence that, according to the Associated Press, has left more than 500 people dead and 255,000 displaced, CFK's soccer program, clinic and reproductive health and women's rights center had to shut their doors.

"Immediately after the elections on Dec. 27, we got a report that they just felt like something was



Senior Laura Williamson, a Carolina for Kibera program officer, volunteered in Kibera last summer. Ethnic violence and looting following the elections in December caused CFK to shut down its clinics and programs.

going to happen," Pierce said. CFK is only closed temporarily and has opened an emergency food service for the program's youth who have been displaced by the violence.

Though Kibera is an impoverished area that struggles with ethnic tensions, Kenya typically is not a site of ethnic violence in Africa.

"Usually Kenyans are the ones taking in refugees from Somalia and elsewhere, and now Kenyans are the refugees," said Laura

Williamson, a UNC senior and CFK program officer. "It's turned what people know about the country and their lives on its head."

Optimistic that its programs will reopen within the coming months, CFK is going forward with recruiting volunteers for the summer.

"I think that there's an opportunity here for some of the great students that we have at UNC and from Duke to make a significant impact in the lives of people who have been destroyed by this vio-

lence," Pierce said. Though refugees have yet to return and aid groups have described the violence as sporadic, Peter Ogego, the Kenyan ambassador to the U.S., expressed confidence that the country will stabilize both politically and socially.

"Schools will open next week," he said. "Things are getting back to normal."

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

NH PRIMARY

FROM PAGE 1

of the state's non-partisan issue: keeping its primary first.

The walls of his office, covered in pictures and murals, tell the stories of past campaigns. Ronald Reagan holds an "I (Heart) New Hampshire" sweater in '84. Bill Clinton, bright-eyed in '92, runs bingo for senior citizens. A myriad of others bowl, swim and snowmobile their way towards the presidency.

Challenging the candidates

There's only one real key to doing well in the New Hampshire primaries, Gardner says: "Let voters here take part in events and test the candidates, as they do over quite a lengthy period of time."

I observed that process throughout the week, watching the last of the undecided voters challenge candidates.

At an "Ask Mitt Anything" rally in Derry, a middle-aged man hunches over the microphone and challenges former Gov. Mitt Romney's treatment of "the undocumented" in the Irish community.

"When you sit down tonight Gov. Romney, will you do me a favor?" he asks in a heavy Irish lilt. "Just remember that they're human."

Romney stands patiently and allows the man to continue.

"Have you no shame in the way you've talked about our citizens?" the man asks.

By now the crowd of Romney supporters has had enough.

"Sit. Down," a woman says as if scolding a pre-adolescent. The crowd follows with angry shouts: "Shut up!" and "They're illegal!"

It seems that for many the deciding process is over — dissent will no longer be tolerated at these rallies.

The media takeover

"The time period we're in now, this isn't the way the real New Hampshire primary is," Gardner says.

He lauds New Hampshire's patented one-on-one politics, called retail politics, because they force candidates to talk to real people. But now, large packs of press dominate the scene.

In the weeks before the voting, the media are an invasive species here, a organism all their own. At a John McCain event, I tread

timidly around the boom mikes and shoulder cameras to get a better view of the senator.

I notice Tucker Carlson, his tanning-booth orange gleam standing out against the winter-pale background. People approach the MSNBC anchor for pictures, temporarily forgetting the stump speech of the presidential hopeful.

At the Democratic Party's 100 Club Dinner — set in the Hampshire Dome with fancy white table cloths over AstroTurf — the media sit in a cordoned-off section. Mingling with dinner guests is highly discouraged.

Veterans and volunteers

Ron Paul minutemen, drums and flags in hand, march down Main Street in Concord. In a nearby coffee shop I meet Daniel Carr, a previously unregistered 20-year-old up from Central City, Penn.

"Maybe Ron Paul will endorse a third party if he's not elected for Republican," he tells me. "Otherwise I would probably just skip politics and get out of it."

On the other end of the spectrum there's Betty Hall, a Dennis Kucinich supporter who says she got hooked on working at campaign canvassing for Gen. Dwight Eisenhower in 1952.

When I ask her if Kucinich has a chance despite the polls, she tells me that anything can happen in New Hampshire.

Too much?

Before I set off for home, I sit in my car and listen to the Paul and Kucinich supporters chanting at the intersection behind me.

A guy a little older than myself crosses the street and looks up at the throng of supporters. "Get. A. Life," he mutters to himself, mocking the rhythm of their chants.

It's a telling moment, a reminder that even in New Hampshire, at the heart of it all, there are a few who want little to do with the great American horse race.

For others, it's all about the fight. Chet Rogers, a McCain supporter from Hollis, says he's only engaged in politics every four years.

"I like good contests, good sporting events, and this is a lot like that, like North Carolina and Duke."

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

FERRELL SHOW

FROM PAGE 1

Kat Schmermund, who graduated in 2007, is returning to UNC from Washington D.C., along with other alumni for the event and said she plans to meet up with friends who are still students at the show.

"The tickets are pretty pricey, especially considering that I'm going to be up in the nosebleed section," she said. "I would think the price could be cheaper considering how many people they can jam into the Smith Center, but

there was no way I was going to miss out on this."

Schmermund said she's not sure what to expect from the performance since Ferrell doesn't usually do stand-up.

"I'm excited because I know it's going to be outlandish and hilarious," she said. "I love Will Ferrell and quote his movies so much that my Will Ferrell imitation voice has often snuck into my regular speech; it's sort of embarrassing."

Contact the Arts Editor at artsdesk@unc.edu.

HOUSING

FROM PAGE 1

The next formal step for the foundation is its presentation to the Chapel Hill Town Council in March.

Didow said that alternative plans haven't been finalized but that they should be completed by late February.

For some, such as Wesley Student President William McKinney, the new building cannot come fast enough.

McKinney said the structure, which is beginning to show its age, lacks the outreach capacity that the new building promises.

"Everyone else already has a community that fits them, like foreign language or substance-free," McKinney said. "There's a need for a community based on faith."

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LATTA

FROM PAGE 1

crowd on her way off the court.

"I had a great career here," Latta said. "I had a lot of ups, I had a lot of downs, and when I think about that — we went to three ACC championships, two Final Fours. Just not even all the basketball — just being here is a great honor. ... I miss everything about Carolina."

And the UNC community assured her a lofty place in history with her second halftime honor, the Patterson Medal, the program's most prestigious award. Given since 1924 in memory of John Durand Patterson, the award recognizes athletic excellence both on and off the field.

"There's so much that I learned here," Latta said. "I just learned to be a better person. Just be a better person and play with a lot of heart, a lot of passion. Just being in the Carolina atmosphere, it does some-

"What she did for women's basketball ... is just unbelievable. Because she's such a small package, but yet she's got so much energy."

SYLVIA HATCHELL, UNC BASKETBALL COACH

thing to you."

After concluding her career at UNC in 2007, Latta was drafted 11th overall by the Detroit Shock and is now playing for Elitzur Maclaren Holon, a club in Israel. But she still keeps up with the current Tar Heels and was glad to be on hand Saturday to witness the 99-78 win.

Midway through the first half, Cetera DeGraffenreid, the heir apparent to Latta's point guard position, cut through the Georgia Tech defense, spun and drained an acrobatic layup while getting fouled. Latta smiled, showing approval from an unusual place in the second row.

"I played with her three years,

and throughout the course of the years you don't pay attention to stuff that she does," said a nostalgic Erlana Larkins. "But when you really sit down and look at the things she's done for the team, it's just amazing."

Now, with a spot reserved in the Carmichael Auditorium rafters, Latta can look down on the next generation of Tar Heels, even while she is off taking over Israel, as she puts it.

"Carolina comes first no matter what."

Contact the Sports Editor at sports@unc.edu.

May 2008 Graduates!!

Apply to be a Carolina College Adviser

Full-time position helping low-income high school students find their way to college

UNC-Chapel Hill's Carolina College Advising Corps (CCAC) seeks new Carolina graduates to serve as college advisers in low-income high schools across North Carolina.

CCAC advisers will serve within two high schools, and will perform the following primary functions:

- Provide one-on-one admissions and financial aid advice to any student or family seeking assistance.
- Organize group events that encourage students and their families to consider, plan for, and apply to colleges.
- Establish productive working relationships with principals, counselors, and teachers in each assigned high school.
- Assist in the assessment and long-term sustainability of the program.

Paid Position

Application deadline:
January 15, 2008

See job listing at
careers.unc.edu
(log in & go to jobs)

To learn more, contact:
Wendy Jebens
CCAC Project Coordinator
Office of Undergraduate Admissions
wjebens@unc.edu
843-6155

Information Session
Thursday, January 10
5:30 p.m.
Jackson Hall
Office of Undergraduate Admissions

CLASS GIFT

FROM PAGE 1

"There's 700 options for people to choose from," she said. "Also, I would be disappointed if someone said this makes them wary."

So far the senior class campaign has raised a total of \$11,515.56, given by 71 seniors.

But only seven of the 71 students have earmarked their money to go toward CFK, said Scott Ragland, director of communications in the Office of University Advancement.

Last year at this time, the campaign had received only 46 donations, Shores said. That's not surprising, though, as most campaigns pick up toward the end.

Senior Lauren Miller said that the donation campaign itself is a good idea but that not many seniors know about the effort.

"I think this might affect the way people donate," Miller said. Shores said class officers haven't emphasized the campaign much yet. "People don't want to think that they're graduating," she said. "Until this semester, we don't emphasize the campaign."

After 2006, administrators advised the senior class not to give physical gifts to the University. The Class of 2007 voted to donate funds to Carolina Covenant, which makes it possible for students of poor families to graduate debt-free.

Barcott said the senior class' selection of CFK as its primary charity should be highlighted because of the organization's mission in the country's current state.

"This makes it even more relevant — needs are more pronounced now."

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