

Brown, Orozco to debate

By Heather McCarron/Staff writer

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Incumbent Republican Sen. Scott Brown, R-Wrentham, for the first time this election season will face off with his challenger and political newcomer Sara Orozco, a Democrat from Needham, at a debate slated for next Wednesday, Oct. 29.

Brown, who has spent the last four years in the Senate, and Orozco, a psychologist with her own practice, are vying to represent the Norfolk, Bristol and Middlesex district in the state Senate. The district includes Attleboro, Franklin, Millis, Natick, Needham, Norfolk, North Attleboro, Plainville, Sherborn, Wayland, Wellesley, Wrentham.

Next week's debate, which will be the only one between Brown and Orozco, will be held in the council chambers at Attleboro City Hall, Rte. 118, in Attleboro, starting at 6:30 p.m.

The event is co-sponsored by Friends of Attleboro Interested in Revitalization (F.A.I. R.), a business group, and The Sun Chronicle, an Attleboro-based daily newspaper. There will be two panelists, one representing the Chronicle and one representing F.A.I.R.

"There'll be questions from those panelists," said Mike Kirby, one of the debate organizers. "And also the candidates will be questioning each other. We always like to do that. It livens things up a bit."

He said one hour has been scheduled for the debate.

Brown, who noted he has been especially busy dealing with the current financial crisis and has had no time to dedicate to other debates, said his own and Orozco's campaign trails haven't crossed much.

"I'm curious to hear what her thoughts are, what her plans are and what her motives are," he said of his expectations for the debate.

Orozco said she has been wanting to debate Brown, but attempts to schedule meetings in other towns were not successful. She said she is pleased she will be able to debate him once before the Nov. 4 election.

"I'm just going in there (to the debate) with my message. I feel like this is the first time for the voters to really be able to see us side by side," she said. "This is the opportunity for the voters to see who they're voting for," she said.

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