

## Maharashtra government in India bans Sex Education

DEENA ZARU | SENIOR WRITER

The government of Maharashtra, which is India's third largest state, banned the introduction of sex education in schools in hope of silencing protesters who fear that its implementation will corrupt their youth.

According to BBC News, this step is seen as an impediment to the central government as it tries to make sex education a country-wide phenomena.

With an estimated five million Indians who are HIV-positive, India has the highest number of AIDS patients in the world. As this statistic is rapidly increasing, a counter push for the implementation of sex education is also intensifying.

BBC News reported that generally, parents in India hesitate to talk about sex to their children. Schools are only permitted to teach basic facts that are generally limited to reproductive and biological changes in males and females.

"To begin with, India is a very culturally conservative country and a lot of things like sex, especially premarital sex, AIDS, prostitution, and homosexuality are cultural taboos," said senior Indian native Rohit Gandhi. "So the culture in India makes

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## Fox News stokes anti-Iran fears

BRICE TARLETON | SENIOR WRITER

For those of you who watch Fox News regularly, it comes as no surprise to learn that they have been drawing uncomfortable parallels between Iraq and Iran, implying that both nations engaged in terrorism against the United States. For those of you who don't watch Fox News regularly, it probably isn't that surprising, either.

To state that Iraq and Iran are working together to achieve similar political interests and that both support Al-Qaeda wouldn't be a problem if these assertions were true. But they aren't. Making such claims is dangerous when there is no truth underlying them.

"By providing a certain viewpoint over and over again, it does affect the way that its viewers think," said Richie Zweigenhaft, professor of Guilford's mass media course. "It is a form of propaganda, just as any news source with a particular viewpoint is."

A PIPA/Knowledge Networks poll in Oct. 2003 showed that 67 percent of Fox viewers believed that there were connections between Iraq and Al Qaeda, which was known to be untrue at the time. However, if you believe something like this, then you are much more likely to support decisions to infiltrate Iraq as a "retaliatory action,"

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## GREENSBORO PLAGUED BY DROUGHT



CHARLIE CLAY/GUILFORDIAN

The waterline in Guilford's lake is nearly two feet lower than normal because of the drought.

LANDRY HAARMANN | STAFF WRITER

Despite a refreshing rainstorm on Aug. 30, which like the other three rainstorms of August deposited less than half an inch of rain, Greensboro and most of North Carolina are still plagued by drought.

Greensboro's summer has been a dry one, with water levels receding back in early July and local rainfall well below average. August had a total rainfall of 1.09 inches, a total much smaller than the month's normal 3.71 inches of rainfall.

Despite these conditions, it was not until Aug. 24 that the city was cited as having "severe drought" conditions.

The effects of severe drought are apparent on campus. The lake looks parched and vegetation seems lifeless.

Vegetation, wildlife and people are all victims of drought. Wild animals suffer from loss of habitat, plants do not grow successfully, the quality of air and water go down, and the economy is hurt.

Along with harming nature, droughts destroy nature's beauty as well.

Sophomore Elissa Hachmeister expressed frustration at the effects the drought will have on trees when autumn arrives.

"It stinks that there's a drought, because when autumn comes the leaves will be less vibrant and they'll fall from the trees earlier," Hachmeister said.

Like nature, the city's water resources are threatened by drought. Greensboro has taken action to preserve the remaining supply.

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## Cross Country: the motivation remains a mystery

LAUREN NEWMYER | STAFF WRITER

At four in the afternoon, in the sweltering heat, the last thing most students want to do is run eight miles. Yet cross country runners willingly put themselves through this seemingly torturous routine every day.

"Cross country definitely brings in a certain type of person," said Coach Jamie LaFollette, a junior. "It takes a certain mentality to go out in 80 or 90 degrees and run. Most runners have very strong internal drives to be able to push themselves and do it independently."

Though many cross country runners claim to be unsure as

to why they run cross country, most agree that there is an addicting factor to it.

"Everyone loves it but they have no idea why," said first-year Grace Normann. "I guess it's just one of the more satisfying sports when it goes well. When you work really hard and it pays off, it really feels good even if you might not be able to walk up the stairs for a few weeks."

Guilford's cross country program, started in 2004, is fairly new. The captains this season are Chris Walker and Brett McDonough on the men's side, and Emily Frenzel on the women's side. With 24 runners,

including 14 returning letter winners, the team has a chance to be competitive in the Old Dominion Athletic Conference (ODAC).

"We're really excited about this year," said Walker. "We've been putting out lots of effort and lots of time."

The ODAC pre-season coaches' poll placed the Guilford men's cross country team sixth, and the women's team seventh in the conference.

The men's team placed third out of five teams, while the women placed fifth out of seven teams in last weekend's Marlin Invitational meet in Virginia Beach. Top runners were first-

years Grace Normann, who placed 14<sup>th</sup>, and Jeremy Wang, who placed 17<sup>th</sup>. Sophomore Charissa Duncan placed 15<sup>th</sup>.

LaFollette expects the women's team to be quite strong this year, having lost only one runner out of last year's top five.

"We lost our top three runners from last year on the men's side, none of which were seniors," said LaFollette. "We were going to be really good, but now we'll have to wait and see. We're young so we're going to improve."

The Guilford team has the advantage of being able to prac-

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