

Freshmen Amy Terry, a biomedical science major from Spring, and Shannon Parker, a zoology major from Richardson, enjoy the beautiful weather while studying outside Monday afternoon.

Gunmen free Berber activis

ALGIERS, Algeria (AP) — Gunmen killed a Frenchman in an Algiers suburb Monday, the 62nd foreigner slain since Islamic insurgents stepped up their campaign to bring down the military regime by scaring off outside investment.

In the Berber region east of Algiers, an anti-fundamentalist outpost, a singer and Berber activist kidnapped 15 days ago was freed Monday by a group of armed men. The kidnapping of Lounes Matoub had caused an outcry in the region, where residents have renewed their campaign for official recognition of the Berber language. No one has claimed responsibility for his abduction.

More than 10,000 people have been killed since the army canceled legislative elections 2 1/2 years ago rather than accept the expected victory by Muslim fun-damentalists. Militant Muslim groups turned their sights on foreigners in September 1993.

Nineteen of those killed have been from France, which once ruled the North African country.

On Saturday, a Frenchman was found with his throat cut in another Algiers suburb. Jean-Pierre Maniere, 59, had been abducted a week earlier. Both Maniere and Merle were longtime residents of Algeria.

Similar killings have been carried out by Muslim extremists who oppose the rapprochement between the government and Islamic leaders who were recently freed from jail.

Prime Minister Mokdad Sifi said armed groups killing the in-nocent will be excluded from reconciliation efforts.

"The people will never pardon those who slash the throats of Algerians and burn down schools," he said, according to the official APS news agency. 'They do not and will not have their place in the national reconciliation effort.

The ultra-radical Armed Islamic Group has taken credit for most of the killings of foreigners and also other spectacular attacks, including the burning of more than 600 schools and institutions.

Sifi added, "I want it know that there is absolutely no

war in our country. Gunmen on Monday nig freed Matoub at a cafe near Berber capital of Tizi Ou where he was kidnapped

25, according to the Berber tural Movement. Matoub is a star of Berber region, which is a m tainous stronghold of second ism close to sixty miles eas Algiers. Matoub was also an vocal campaigner against !

lim fundamentalists. Details on Matoub's weeks in captivity were not J.S. tro mediately available.

The Armed Islamic Gn claimed responsibility for killing 10 days ago of and famed singer, Ched Has whose death stunned the nation

Algerian newspapers Mo quoted the Armed Islamic as saying it executed Hasni cause he was an "enemy of G Hasni's Rai music is seen some fundamentalists as inci youth to stray from the sin teachings of Islam.

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