

More Similar Than You Think

— By ANNIE LYONS —



Photo by Austin McCroskie

Candan Ece Durmus '10, respected Hoosac student, seen here outside Tibbits dorm.

Many people identify the Muslim religion with what is going on around the world and with Al-Qaeda. The attack on the United States on 9/11 has led to the feeling that all Muslims are bad people. But many people may not know that Islamic religion and Christianity are closely related.

Both religions are monotheistic, meaning that they believe in one true God and He is the creator of everything. They believe that other prophets have served God, including Jesus: that He was from God and that He died on the cross. Both religions believe that Jesus was sinless, perfect, and born of the Virgin Mary. Both religions accept that Jesus performed miracles, and ascended to God, and that he will return again. Also God gave the Torah, the prophets and Gospel, and we are to obey God's words. In both religions, believers who die will go into heaven and live forever, while disbelievers will go to hell to be punished forever. Also it is very important to pray to God in the two religions. Thus in these respects, as in others, the two religions are very much alike.

At Hoosac, Candan Ece Durmus (VIth) being a Muslim, said, "The Muslim religion doesn't teach terrorism. It teaches love, peace, being respectful to any other religion not just Muslims. Suicide bombers misrepresent the Muslim religion making people think that the Muslim religion is bad. But the Quran says that killing people is a sin. Suicide bombers think that if they kill people then they can go to paradise, but actually they are going to go to hell not paradise."

The Muslims should not all be linked together because clearly Al-Qaeda is not following its religion correctly, and we should all be more open-minded.

Campus Life



Mrs. Suetlana Tibbts, seen here with Headmaster Richard Lomuscio, during her visit to the Hoosac campus last Wednesday.

Top Stories

— By RAPHAEL LEE —

Hoosac 2009 Yearbook

Since last summer, both Hoosac's faculty members and students have been waiting for Hoosac's 2009 Yearbook. Fortunately, last year's yearbook is now complete and in production. Amy Devine, who is from the Taylor Publishing company, and in charge of publishing the Hoosac Yearbook, said that the 2009 yearbook should be arriving on campus possibly in early February. It is late because adviser Ms. Macri became sick.

More heavy rain on tap for Southern California

Torrential downpours from a strengthening El Nino were inundating parts of California and expected to continue Thursday.

Flooding meant more school closings in greater Los Angeles on Thursday, including the Rim of the World, Snowline and Glendale Unified school districts.

"The city of Los Angeles continues to operate on high alert, with all city departments monitoring

and responding to all storm-related activities," Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa said Wednesday evening.

Rainfall amounts of 1 inch were common in metropolitan Los Angeles, according to the National Weather Service, while Long Beach reported 2 inches. The storm could dump 5 inches to 8 inches of rain on the Los Angeles area by Thursday night and up to 10 inches in the foothills and mountains, according to the weather service.

The storms flooded the region's notoriously busy roadways, including the San Diego Freeway at Lakewood and parts of the Long Beach Freeway in Long Beach and Compton, CNN affiliate KTLA reported.

All deserve Internet freedom

Secretary of State Hillary Clinton warned Thursday that the latest information technology -- designed to open access to governments -- can also be used by those governments to "crush dis-

sent and deny human rights."

"In the last year, we've seen a spike in threats to the free flow of information. China, Tunisia and Uzbekistan have stepped up their censorship of the Internet," she said in a speech at The Newseum in Washington.

"In Vietnam, access to popular social networking sites has suddenly disappeared. And last Friday in Egypt, 30 bloggers and activists were detained."

One member of that group, who has since been released, was in the audience, Clinton said.

"So while it is clear that the spread of these technologies is transforming our world, it is still unclear how that transformation will affect the human rights and welfare of much of the world's population," she said. As reported on CNN.com

Bleeze Banquet Blazes

— By STEPHEN BURKE —

It has been the tradition of the jester from the Yule Log to perform pranks and practical jokes. The Bleeze Banquet marks the end of the jester's reign over the school. It also marks the beginning of all the festivities scheduled for the VIth form this year.

The Banquet itself is a Friday night dinner, in which the tables are arranged for the students and faculty to sit in a cross, the school symbol (which you will witness if you are reading this at the dinner). The seniors sit together in

one part of the dining hall.

"It began in either 32' or 33," said Mr. Lomuscio when asked about the event. That would make this the 77th Bleeze Banquet. "I'm just hoping the food is good," said VIth former Alex Faett. The meal starts off with the lighting of all the Christmas greens, which are still hung in the dining hall. Later several members of the faculty read passages. Before the actual dinner itself the seniors go outside for a bonfire. This is a symbol to seniors that their high school ca-



photo from Owllet file

2009 Bleeze Banquet Bonfire overseen by headmaster Richard Lomuscio.

reer is over, and college is on the way.

Devastation Continues To Plague Haiti

— By ANNIE LYONS —

Bad things happen everyday to people, but what if they affected you personally. If you meet people that could have died, what would you do. On January 12, 2010 at 5:14 P.M a 7.0 earthquake struck southern Haiti killing thousands of people. The quake struck near Haiti's Capital, Port-au-Prince, knocking down buildings and power lines. The quake took place about 6 miles underground, according to the USGS. At least 10 aftershocks followed, including two in the magnitude 5 range.

Several eyewitnesses reported heavy damage and bodies lying in the streets of the capital, Port-au-Prince, where concrete-block homes line steep hillsides. There is no number yet on how many have died, but it is said that there was a serious loss. There were damaged buildings throughout

the capital, including the president's residence and century-old homes nearby, and that a hospital collapsed.

There are more than 20,000 people waiting for food, water and medicine. A lot of help and effort has been sent to Haiti to try to free and help the people in this horrible time of need. All around the world people know what upsetting thing has happened to these people. George Clooney and other celebrities have signed on for a telethon to aid Haitian earthquake victims. Hillary Clinton went to Haiti to assure the Haitian people that the United States is working with the government "to assist in every way we can." A handful of U.S. helicopters landed Tuesday on the grounds of the ruined presidential palace in the capital. But more needs to be done.

Here at the Hoosac School people have been impacted and feel bad for what has happened. Last year a group from Haiti, children and adults, came here to sing for us. Just think: now they could be gone. Adesewa Egunsola (IVth) said, "that it was a horrible disaster and these people didn't deserve it at all." Daniel Fishman (IInd) said, "that it was such a shock and really bad."

Many families have been ripped apart by this tragedy and Haiti is now a huge disaster area. The Haitians need our help, and our school is responding. Hoosac works through NAES. It will handle and distribute the school raised funds. Give your money contribution to Mrs. Weaver -- just a little money can go a long way.

School Sports

- By JENNIFER FOSTER -



Photo by Austin McCroskie

Mengkun (Kaci) Liu pushes past defence line.

Hoosac Owls were victorious over Kingswood Oxford. On January 13 Hoosac Owls Hockey traveled to Hartford CT and trapped Kingswood 49-10. Zach Cappelli heading with 2 goals, along with Attila Pavuk, Elijah Brassard and, Francis Germain, adding one each.

On the 16th, the Girls Basketball team played hard but lost out to Oakwood Christian with a final score of 16-12.

Boys Basketball lost against Oakwood Christian 53-47 on

January 14 which was their first loss of the season. January 20 the Boys Basketball lost 70-64 against Grace Christian.

Also on the 14th, the Hockey team won 3-4 against NSA. "I think were off to a very good start." said Jed Jones.

Student of the Week

Candan Durmus

- By JENNIFER FOSTER -



Photo by Yunru Wang

Q. Why do you think you were chosen for student of the week?
A. "Maybe they thought I did a good job this week."

Q. How is your year going?
A. "Great"

Q. Do you have any siblings?
A. "Yes I have one sister."

Q. How is Hoosac different from schools in Turkey?
A. "It's much more comfortable here."

Q. What kind of music do you listen to?
A. "Every kind of music if it goes along with my feelings"

Q. What is the happiest memory when you were a kid?
A. "With my family, a happy family picture where everyone's together."

Campus Life



RPI leadership workshop presentation. From L/R: Naomi Whetstone, Arian Holman, Annie Lyons, Jon Gervais, Sewa Egunsola.

Wacky News

- By STEPHEN BURKE -

Police stopped what would have been China's first gay pageant ever, only an hour before it was scheduled to begin. The event featured a fashion show and a host in drag, and it was supposed to take place in an upscale nightclub in Beijing. The police claimed that their reasons for stopping the show was because the show wasn't following "proper procedures," and that the content, meaning homosexuality, had nothing to do with it. This wasn't the first time that a politically sensitive event was canceled for procedural reasons. The producers of the show expressed that they felt that China is behind the eight ball about homosexuality. Sodomy was only decriminalized in 1997, and even until 2001 China had officially listed homosexuality as a mental disorder. As reported on alldeaf.com

A bill is being viewed by the French congress on the matter of verbally assaulting one's spouse. It may become illegal in France to mentally abuse spouses by insulting them about their appearance, specifically about being fat. The main problem in the courts is exactly where to draw the line on what will be considered illegal, and what level of severity verbal abuse must have in order to be considered an actual crime. Those for the bill say that the reason this has been proposed is because insults in a marriage could mean that there are bigger issues in the relationship (obviously). The major argument for the bill was that usually those who abuse their spouses' physical appearance also abuse their partners psychologically, and that insulting them about their weight will lower their self-esteem and confidence, preventing them from being motivated enough to start eating better and losing weight. As reported on thatsfit.com

Now You See It Now You Don't

- By ARIAN HOLMAN -

A solar eclipse occurs when the moon passes between the sun and the earth so that the Sun is fully or partially covered. This can only happen during a new moon, when the Sun and Moon are in conjunction as seen from the earth. At least two and up to five solar eclipses can occur each year on earth, with between zero and two of them being total eclipses. Total solar eclipses are rare at any location because during each eclipse totality exists only along a narrow path in the tiny area of the Moon's umbra.

A total solar eclipse is a natural phenomenon and many people travel to remote locations to observe one. This past January 15, 2010 was the annual winter solar eclipse and the next total event is the solar eclipse of July 11 2010.

In ancient times, and in some cultures today, solar eclipses have been attributed to supernatural causes. Total solar eclipses can be frightening for people who are unaware of the astronomical explanation, as the Sun seems to disappear in the middle of the day and the sky darkens in a matter of minutes.

This past January 15, India experienced a full eclipse. In our science department, Mr. Olf is the physics teacher. The physics course does not include astronomy, but it is a topic of interest. We do have an observatory and maybe someday we will be able to use to witness a solar eclipse.

Sudoku

	9		8		2		6	
2	8				6		4	9
			1		3			
8		2				6		3
	1						8	
6		7				9		1
				9		4		
5	3			8			9	4
	2			6		5		1

Sudoku-Answers

6	8	5	3	4	1	2	7	9
2	4	9	7	6	5	8	1	3
3	7	1	8	2	9	5	6	4
8	5	7	6	1	3	9	4	2
4	6	3	2	9	7	1	8	5
9	1	2	4	5	8	6	3	7
7	9	4	5	8	6	3	2	1
1	2	6	9	3	4	7	5	8
5	3	8	1	7	2	4	9	6

What would you like to see in the Owlet?
Give written suggestions to Ms. Roemischer.

SPORTS

Sat. - 1/23 @ 7pm
Ice Hockey (Home)
vs. Harvey

Sat - 1/23 @2:30pm
Boys Varsity Basketball
(Home) vs. Hudson Valley

Tues. - 1/26 @4pm
Girls Varsity Basketball
(Home) vs. Oakwood

Tues. - 1/26 @4pm
Girls Varsity Basketball
(Home) vs. Oakwood

Wed - 1/27 @4pm
Ice Hockey (Away)
vs. Brunswick

Wed. - 1/27 @3pm
Boys Varsity Basketball
(Home) vs. Darrow

Thurs. - 1/28 @3pm
Girls Varsity Basketball
(Home) vs. Emma Willard

Fri. - 1/29 @ 7pm
Ice Hockey (Away)
vs. Hebron

PEER WRITING ASSISTANCE

Every Monday & Thursday
7:00-9:00 pm
in Library Reference Room

PEER MATH ASSISTANCE

Monday through Thursday
7:00 & 8:00 pm
@ Library Reference Room
Must get a pass from dorm parents

LEADERSHIP SOCIETY

Every Thursday, 9pm-9:45pm
with Nurse Klein
in Nurse Klein's office
in Tibbits

ON DUTY

Duty Master - Mr. Ryan
Chaperone 1 - Ms. Klein
Chaperone 2 - Mr. Bottenheim
Prefect on Duty - Han
Open House - Mr. Ryan
Open House will be in the Gym

OWLET STAFF

Senior Editor:
RAPHAEL LEE

Staff Writers:
STEPHEN BURKE
JENNIFER FOSTER
ANNIE LYONS
ARIAN HOLMAN

Photography:
EUNICE CHEONG
YUNRU WANG
AUSTIN MCCROSKIE

Faculty Editor
MS. INGRID ROEMISCHER



Bianca's
Student Special
1 Large Cheese Pizza
12 Wings
(1) 2 Liter Soda
\$17.50
686-3000
M-Th 11am-9pm
F & Sat 11am-10pm