

Top Stories

— By RAPHAEL LEE —

William B.J. Tibbits, Sr. passed away.

William Badger John Tibbits, Sr, 85, born August 17, 1924, died December 12, 2009 at the Specialty Hospital in Washington, DC from complications due to a stroke on June 26, 2006. Since 1982, Mr. Tibbits was a member of the Board of Trustees at the Hoosac School (est. in 1889 by the Tibbits family). A memorial service will be held at Hoosac School in January 2010. He donated the "Tibbits Cup" which will be awarded to a 3rd Former who has displayed citizenship for school and country.

107 slave laborers freed in Mexico City.

Mexican authorities have freed 107 indigenous people who officials say were being held as slave laborers in a Mexico City factory disguised as a drug rehabilitation center.

Twenty-three suspects were arrested in Thursday's raid, said Miguel Angel Mancera, Mexico City's attorney general. Two more were arrested Friday morning, officials said.

The victims ranged from 14 to 70 years old, and some were tortured, Mancera told CNN affiliate TV Azteca. Some victims also suffered sexual abuse, he said.

"They were beaten," he said. "Several have wounds, serious wounds. We even have some of the victims with fractures."

Mancera said all of the victims were suffering from severe dehydration and malnutrition, he

said. Some were taken to a hospital. The captives, some of whom speak only indigenous languages and no Spanish, were locked in the building, which had bars on the windows and a fence outside, he said.

They made handbags and clothespins and were not paid. Their only daily meal consisted of chicken legs and rotten vegetables. Mancera said, "The vast majority of the food we found was spoiled."

Video of the inside of the building showed filthy and crowded living conditions.

Clinton calls North Korean talks 'positive.'

The Obama administration's first high-level direct talks with North Korea yielded no promise by Pyongyang to return to six-party negotiations aimed at ending its nuclear program, but Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, on Thursday, nonetheless called the meeting "quite positive."

In Washington, Clinton said she agreed with special envoy Stephen Bosworth that the talks were "very useful," adding, "It does remain to be seen whether and when the North Koreans will return to the six-party talks, but the bottom line is that these were exploratory talks, not negotiations."

North Korea has refused to return to the talks conducted by the United States, Russia, China, South Korea and Japan, insisting that it wants to talk directly with the U.S. As reported on CNN.com

FIFA Rolls Into South Africa

— By ARIAN HOLMAN —

FIFA (Fédération Internationale de Football Association) world cup is an international football competition and the sports global governing body. The championship has been awarded every four years since the first tournament was held in 1930.

The current tournament involves 32 teams competing for the title at venues within the host nation over a period of about one month. During the past 18 tournaments seven nations have won the FIFA title: Brazil is the only team to have played in every tournament and has won the World Cup with a record of five times; Italy is the current champion and has won four titles; Germany is next with three. The other former champions are Uruguay, winners of the inaugural tournament, and Argentina with two titles; England and France took home one title each.

This year South Africa will be hosting the World Cup from June 11th to July 11th. This will be the first time an African country has hosted this event. IVth Form, Sewa Egunsola said, "I am very happy that my country will be hosting this event, it's going to be an exciting time."



Photo by Angela Asante

On October 7th 2009, Colombia and Chile South American competed to qualify for a spot in the 2010 FIFA World Cup. Several games are still to be played to clinch a position.

Until Death Do Us Part

— By STEPHEN BURKE —

In the United States about half of all marriages end in divorce. But that would change in the state of California, as John Marcotte tries to ban divorce by adding an amendment to the California state constitution. You would expect the man to be very conservative with religious intentions, but this is actually not true.

Last year, California voters gave a yes to "Proposition 8", which made gay marriage illegal in the state of California. It was made illegal on the ground that it broke the laws of traditional marriage. This movement against divorce is meant to be a satirical reaction made in defense of gay marriage.

Mr. Marcotte's argument is that since gay marriage is illegal because it breaks the laws of traditional marriage, divorce should be illegal too because it is doing the same. The "traditional law" that Mr. Marcotte is referring to, is the well-known line "until death do us part." He says that if gay marriage can be banned on the grounds that it breaks traditional marriage (a man and a woman), divorce also must be banned because it does the same (breaks union before death)--an interesting new argument.

When John Bragga, a Vth Former with divorced parents, was asked about the subject, he said, "I understand the point he's trying to make, but forcing people who don't get along to stay married will cause a lot of problems, and preventing those problems is more important than just proving a point."

Many Californians agree, which is part of the reason Marcotte's movement has not gained as much support as necessary to get any serious recognition. The people against Proposition 8 are divided about their feelings towards this new movement. Many say they agree, but they will not join and support the petition. The other reason this movement isn't quite moving is because the funding for the petition, as of now, is entirely made from the profits of selling \$12 T-Shirts. An official petition takes several million dollars to get enough attention to make it to the state senate.

The 2009 Hoosac Yule Log



Photos by Austin McCroskie



Top left: The Beefeeders procession open 2009 Yule Log.

Top right: Annie Lyons signing her solo.



Bottom left: Yunru Yang, Mengkyun Liu(center), Terry Zhang performing their Troubadour session during the Act II.

School Sports

- By JENNIFER FOSTER -



photos by Eunice Cheong

Hoosac Owls on the ice. Photos from an earlier game.



On Friday, January 1st the Hoosac Owls played North Yarmouth Academy and won 4-1. On January 2nd, Hoosac played Brooks School and one 3-1. Then on Wednesday, January 6 the Owls played Hotchkiss School and lost 6-1. Jed Jones stated that "it is a better year then last year."

Russia Asks U.S. For Help

-By ANNIE LYONS -

In Russia it is estimated that around 30,000 addicts die from heroin each year. Russia says it has become the world's biggest consumer of heroin. The head of Russia's anti-narcotics service, Victor Ivanov, said that seizures of Afghan heroin were up by 70%. The drug was partly to blame for the rise in crime and the fall in Russia's population. Heroin from Afghanistan poses a threat to Russia's national security. Through the years Russia has become hooked on Afghan opiates (drugs). It is said that Russia has up to 2.5 million drug addicts. Candan Ece Durmas ('10, from Turkey) said that "there are many drugs all over Europe and there are many addicts all over every country."

Health ministry officials say overdoses kill around 80 people a day. Russia's drug adviser has called on the United States to use its troops to go into Afghanistan to help prevent the drugs from cross-



Photo from www.drug-rehabs.org

Heroin user heats a spoon full of the drug getting it ready for use.

ing the border. Last week Barack Obama said that he plans to send an extra 30,000 U.S. troops to the region in an effort to stabilize the Afghan government by defeating the Taliban, who are believed to be heavily involved in the country's burgeoning drugs trade. It is estimated that Afghanistan produces 93 percent of the world's heroin.

Russia is struggling to stop the flow of drugs through its borders and trying to destroy what heroin is already in its custody. But officials say the drug routes through Central Asia are too immense to secure. The source of the heroin in Afghanistan has to be destroyed.

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

Sudoku-Answers

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

Wacky News

- By STEPHEN BURKE -

The dating website "beautifulpeople.com", does not allow any "ugly" people to join the site. Now it is denying fat ones as well. The online dating service banned 5,000 of its subscribers for becoming too heavy. The site said it recognized that much eating occurs during the time between Thanksgiving and New Year, and that they kicked out the members who they felt "overindulged." as reported on CBS News.

In Britain, a man escaped prison, to which he was originally sentenced for aggravated burglary. He was in his seventh year of imprisonment, when he escaped. Since the escape, to the frustration of the police, he has been updating his Facebook profile on a regular basis. He has so far accumulated over 4000 followers. Police are trying to track him with the cooperation of Facebook, but have so far been unsuccessful. As reported on alldeaf.com

Be careful next time you order a breakfast burrito from McDonalds. A man in Ottawa, Canada, found ants in his burrito when he attempted to eat it at work. However the ants inside were not crawling around as expected, but were fried, which meant that the burrito was cooked with live ants in it. This was obviously a major violation of sanitation laws, and McDonalds is facing charges. As reported on ottawasun.com

New In Library

- *The Surrender Tree: Poems of Cuba's Struggle for Freedom* by Margarita Engle
- *Tales From Outer Suburbia* by Shaun Tan
- *What the World Eats* by Faith D'Aluisio
- *Our Living Earth: A Story of People, Ecology & Preservation* by Isabelle Delannoy
- *The Truth About Forever* by Sarah Dessen
- *Different* by Michael Frederick
- *The Lost Symbol* by Dan Brown
- *Geoengineering* by Frederick P. Miller

Campus Life



Photo by Austin McCroskie

Girls Intramural sports champions
From left to right: Peini Su, Seola Jo, Eunice Cheong, Candan Durmus, Adesewa Egunsola

Sudoku

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

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SPORTS

Sat. - 1/9 Tournament
Ice Hockey (Away)
vs. Stanstead

Mon. - 1/11 @6:30pm
Boys Varsity Basketball
(Home)
vs. Mountainside Christian

Mon. - 1/11 @5pm
Girls Varsity Basketball
(Home)
vs. Mountainside Christian

Tues. - 1/12 @4pm
Girls Varsity Basketball
(Home) vs. Grace Christian

Wed. - 1/13 - TBA
Ice Hockey (TBA)
vs. Kingswood Oxford

Thurs. - 1/14 @4pm
Boys Varsity Basketball
(Home)
vs. Oakwood Christian

Fri. - 1/15 - @3:30pm
Ice Hockey (Away)
vs. Berwick Academy

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 - Miss Kelly
Chaperone 1 - Mr. Burns
Chaperone 2 - Mr. Kurland
Prefect on Duty - Wang
Open House - Mr. Thomson

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