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Dalai Lama dined on Italian food from Hackettstown during Bethlehem visit

By Precious Petty

September 10, 2008, 12:35AM

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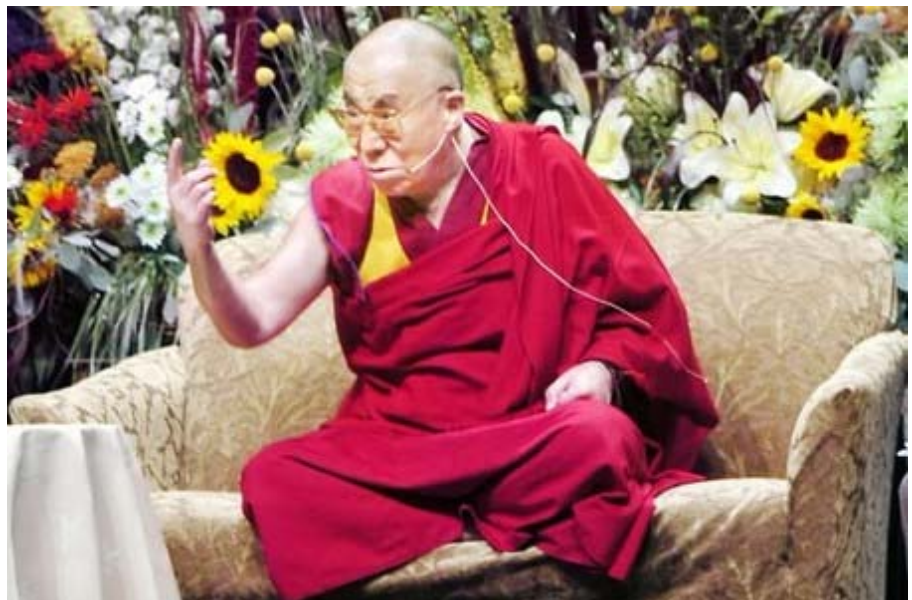
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Who knew? The Dalai Lama, shown here lecturing at Lehigh University, likes Italian food.

What do Al Pacino and "Sopranos" cast members have in common with the Dalai Lama?

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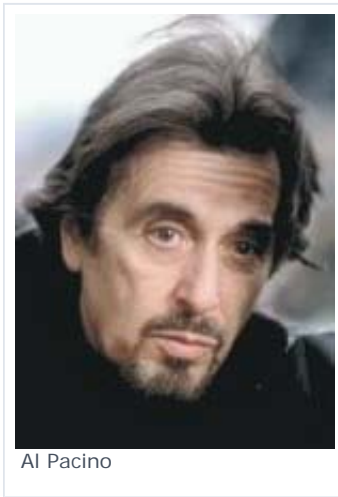
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Al Pacino

They've all eaten meals from **Mama's Pizza and Cafe Baci**, an Italian restaurant in Hackettstown.

Staff from the cafe and affiliate Bello Giorno Catering of Belvidere prepared food for the Buddhist spiritual leader when he visited Bethlehem this summer for a series of lectures at Lehigh University.

"It was an honor," said Monica Schiano, wife of co-owner Tom Schiano and head of the family-owned catering business.

Schiano's brother, Luigi, spent hours upon hours in the kitchen developing a special wheat bread preferred by world's most famous Tibetan.

Stewed lamb, eggplant rollatini and grilled salmon are other items that appeared on the menu.

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Posted by **kshay770**

September 10, 2008, 9:02AM