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THE TORCH

the brooks college newsletter

Jan. 29, 2010

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Published Since 2007

Let's just eat here.



Jennifer
Tran

*Staff
Writer*

I'm serious. Let's just eat at Brooks. Please, please stop laughing. I'm not kidding. The food has improved, I promise.

Have you found it unusual that the pizzas aren't glimmering in grease lately? Have you noticed that our options are a bit more "gourmet" this semester?

Last Semester, the Baylor Dining Service met with members of the Brooks College Council

to discuss how they could improve customer service here at the Great Hall. This meeting seemed to have been beneficial to all of us because we've definitely seen some changes in the dining room this semester.

Some improvements include: Thicker hamburgers with condiments on the side (Think Fud-druckers), Panini styled sandwiches - stone oven style, hand tossed salads and gourmet pizza sans heart attack that might follow. Also, keep an eye out for more desserts! There will be a whole section reserved for desserts and coffee in the morning.

They're slowly imple-



PHOTO BY KATY MCDOWALL

menting our new ideas so DO keep an eye out for the new additions to the food selections. There's a lot of other stuff but you

should really just use this article as a motivator for you to go eat at the Great Hall today! :D

Just Do It. ■

Brooks library haven for worms... bookworms that is



Emily
Goeke

*Contributing
Writer*

Hidden in a little corner in Brooks College is a library. The Brooks College library is a gem that often gets overlooked. While it will never be a

substitute for the wonderful research libraries we have here at Baylor, it is still an excellent resource for the members of Brooks College.

Our library has a small but growing collection of books. Many of these books belong to the Great Texts Program, which has faculty offices behind the front desk. The other books were either

donated to or otherwise procured by Brooks College. Each of our books are marked with a Brooks College bookplate inside the cover so that Brooks members can feel more invested in their library.

One very special way in which books are added to our collection is the Senior Book Tradition. At the end of every semester, graduating seniors

who live or have lived in Brooks College are asked to inscribe and donate a book that was meaningful to them. Also, seniors who write an Honors thesis may add copy of their thesis to the collection. These books, along with books written by special visitors to Brooks, can be found in the glass case on

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Chinese New Year	2/11
All University Sing	2/18-2/20
Deadline for Torch submissions	2/12
New issue of The Torch!	2/19

THE COMMUNITY NEEDS YOU!

If you're interested in meeting other great people, contributing to the community that supports you and making Brooks even better, why not stop by a committee meeting this week? You can join any time, so visit and find the one that fits you!

COMMUNITY AND TRADITIONS

- Tuesdays - 9:30 PM - Seminar Room -
ARTS AND ACADEMICS

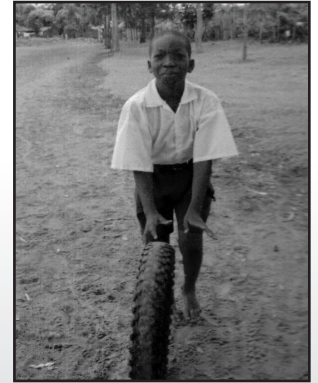
- Every other Sunday - 4:30 PM - Library -
CAMPUS LIFE

- Every other Monday - 9 PM - Seminar Room
SERVICE AND MINISTRY

- Mondays - 7 PM - Seminar Room

Help support Victor!

For the third year in a row, Brooks is sponsoring Victor Omondi, a Kenyan child and honorary Brooks member. Let's bless him and pray for him, as well as give to support him! Just a dollar every few weeks will really make a difference...but only if EVERYONE does it!



Need prayer?

The Brooks Prayer Team meets daily to pray for requests from the College and beyond. If you have a request, send an e-mail to BROOKSPRAYER@GMAIL.COM. Let us know how to pray! Also, if you are interested in joining, please do. The team is open to all.

For more information, e-mail us!

Bounce. Bounce. Fly.



Kyndall
Renfro
Chaplain

Discipline. When I heard this word as child I gasped.

Back then I linked discipline with punishment, and thus felt a bit of fear.

I dreaded discipline and it made me cringe.

Discipline. When I heard this word as a teenager, I sighed.

Back then I linked discipline with meticulous order, and thus felt a bit of guilt.

I knew I probably needed discipline, but I couldn't

master it, and it made me frustrated.

Discipline. When I hear this word now, I take a deep, relaxing breath.

Now I link discipline with health, tranquility, and growth, and thus feel inspired.

I see discipline as my friend, and it helps me live.

Most of us have some sense that we need more discipline in our lives, yet the very thought of enforcing it sounds so . . . hard. And boring. Discipline seems like it is going to suffocate our entertainment and squelch our spontaneity, and who really wants to live fun-starved and rule-bound just to be able to get their homework done in a timelier manner?

But maybe discipline is about more than efficiency. Maybe discipline is less like chains holding us down and more like a trampoline propelling us up—a flexible but secure surface that enables us to jump higher and go farther than we ever could just scurrying around on the ground with lead feet, gravity fighting against us the whole way.

Did you ever jump on any old trampolines as a kid? The bed of the trampoline was so flexible you sunk down in before it flung you back up, whereas on a brand-new trampoline the surface was much tighter.

When you first engage in brand-new disciplines, it doesn't feel like you're getting very far or going very high. The surface feels tight, and you feel awkward even trying. Other people may be do-

ing flips all around you, but you're convinced this won't work for you. Meditating slowly on Scripture just doesn't work for a busy brain like yours. Morning and evening prayer at Brooks just isn't your thing. A regular time of prayer just doesn't fit in a schedule like yours.

But if you keep bouncing, the surface underneath conforms to your movement, your movement develops a rhythm of jumping, and eventually the rhythm helps you to fly . . .

Okay, maybe not literally fly but you get the idea. And while at the root of things it is always God and grace that get you in the air, discipline is the channel by which you receive, the spring from which you bounce, the means by which you interrupt the power of gravity.

Contribute to
The Torch!

*It's not too
late!*

Send an e-mail
to

BROOKS.TORCH@
GMAIL.COM

for more
information!

Finding hope in tragedy



Nathan
Fischer
*Staff
Writer*

In the mist of all of the tragedy of the earthquake in Haiti, I wanted to find some very inspiring stories that show hope when none seems to be found:

iPhone App Saves Mans Life:

Dan Wooley works for Compassion International and is from Colorado. He was in Haiti doing some work for Compassion when the earthquake hit, and he became trapped

under the rubble of the Hotel Montana.

He used the "Pocket First Aid & CPR" app from Jive Media on his iPhone. The app had information from the American Heart Association and helped him treat his excessive bleeding and compound fracture. He was also able to talk to other's that were trapped and help them as well. He was rescued after 60 hours of being trapped.

He is now home with this wife and 2 children.

Seven Year Old Boy Raises \$240,000 for Haiti:

Charlie Simpson is a seven-year-old boy that lives in London, England. He

started with only wanting to raise £500 by riding his bike for 5 miles around a local park through the UNICEF's earthquake appeal fundraiser.

He has, since then, with much media and international support raised another £151,197.45, making his total come in at £151,697.45 or \$245,192.26.

Charlie commented, "My name is Charlie Simpson. I want to do a sponsored bike ride for Haiti because there was a big earthquake and loads of people have lost their lives".

The money raised will provide water, sanitation, education, nutrition, and support for child protection in Haiti.

WORMS

CONTINUED, PAGE 1

the left hand side of the library.

Taking care of the library is the responsibility of the Arts and Academics Committee. We sort new donations, do book plating for the books owned by Brooks College, and make sure the library is neat and organized. We are also in the process of creating an online catalog, which you can find at <http://www.librarything.com/catalog/brookscollege>. If you are interested in the Arts and Academics Committee, contact me (Emily_Goeke@baylor.edu) or Daniel Abernathy (Daniel_Abernathy@baylor.edu), or come to our meetings every other Sunday at 4:30 pm in the library.

The library does have a

few rules, most of which are just library common sense. When in the library, you should refrain from being loud or disruptive. The books, which are the public property of Brooks College, should be treated with respect. The door to the college master's residence is a private entrance and should not be opened. However, contrary to most library rules, food and drinks are allowed as long as you are responsible with the books and furniture and clean up after yourself.

Finally, did you know you can check out books from the Brooks College library? To do so, record your name and the book in the ledger, in the drawer of the bookstand by the entrance. You can check out the books for two weeks and renew your check out once.

Finding Your Happy Place



Sarai
Ingram
*Staff
Writer*

Sometimes during the semester, I get really stressed out and just have to put everything down and take a nap.

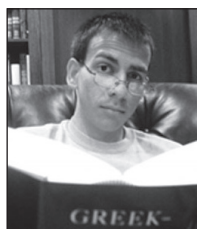
Unfortunately, my naps usually last about 3 hours, so I've tried to find a good alternative so that I can still relax, but stay conscious. During my time here I've tried different things like playing DDR to get some more energy, watching tv, and reading fiction, but by far the best thing that I've found is knitting and crocheting!

I'm actually working on a scarf right now and I'm excited to finish it! In my opinion, crocheting is faster, but a lot of people think that knitting is easier.

Our Brooks College ComTrad Co-chair, Osalunosse, actually started "The Knitting Club," so if anyone wants to learn how to knit or just join for fun, you can email her for the details!

Remember, even if it's not knitting or crocheting, you need to find that one thing that just allows you to calm down. It's really difficult in this time of horrible natural disasters, wars, and poverty around the world, but try to find your happy place.

Anybody want joy?



Alex
Tworkowski
*Contributing
Writer*

I like joy. I want joy. As a matter of fact, I need joy. Perhaps you are in the same boat as me. Maybe together we can figure out something about joy.

Have you ever noticed how weak and dry we are when we lack joy?

We find anything from simple tasks to grand pursuits to be drudgery when we lack joy. There is something uplifting and sustaining about joy. It empowers us, giving us a bright attitude toward life. It is the windshield wiper for the window through which we see our goals; we see the end more clearly and as a result, we press on with vigor and lighthearted determination (more on this paradox later).

Okay; so we need joy.

Where do we find it? We find it in God, of course! God spoke life to the distressed post-captivity Israelites when Nehemiah said, "Do not be grieved, for the joy of the LORD is your strength" (Nehemiah 8:10). It is God's joy—the joy that He delights in His people—that is our strength. He rejoices over us "with shouts of joy" (Zeph. 3:17). Jesus embraced and lived in this joy and offers it to His disciples. If we are His disciples, how then do we receive this joy?

Obedience is where joy is found. "Blessed are those who hear the word of God and observe it" (Luke 11:28). Obedience brings the blessing (Deut. 28:2). Jesus tells us that if we keep His commandments, we will abide in His love. He follows His instruction with this statement: "These things I have spoken to you so that My joy may be in you, and that your joy may be made full" (John

15:11). When we say yes to God, we practice our love for our Father by responding to Him and as a result, we receive His joy and pleasure.

According to Richard Foster, "to overlook [the fact that joy is found in obedience] is to miss the meaning of the Incarnation." Jesus became man so that He could model obedience to the Father for us. Jesus saw the joy of obeying His Father's will and creation's redemption set before Him and endured the cross, being obedient unto death (Heb. 12:2; Phil. 2:8). We look upon His obedience in awe, admiring His selfless life and His bountiful joy which surpassed every temptation to give up His Father's cause.

When we obey God, we do not sin. When we avoid sin, we avoid grieving the Holy Spirit and open ourselves to walk in Him, who manifests His fruit in us—one of them, if you remember the days of

Sunday School and Children's Church, is joy (Gal. 5:22). His joy reminds us that He is the only thing that matters, He is in control, and He cares deeply about you. Thus we can pursue Him and endure trials with "lighthearted determination."

James encourages us to consider the testing of our faith to be "all joy" because it will help us endure and make us complete (James 1:2-4). Our endurance and God's joy will make us realize that "momentary, light affliction is producing for us an eternal weight of glory far beyond all comparison" (2 Cor. 4:17).

The joy is out there! God gives it; are you willing to receive it?

Let's ask Him for it! Don't look to your left or your right for joy; run straight to Him and follow His lead and instruction. "Trust and obey, for there's no other way to be happy in Jesus than to trust and obey."

Sammy says...



Can someone
feed my cat since
I'm not at home?

Decide what Sammy says!
E-mail your idea to
BROOKS.TORCH@GMAIL.COM
and maybe you'll see it here
next issue!

DISCLAIMER Dr. Samuel Palmer Brooks did not, to our knowledge, actually say the above quote. We also have no record he ever went by the nickname 'Sammy.'

in

knitting

crocheting

HGTV

ukuleles

croquet

Starbucks after
Sunday night
dinner

leggings as pants

mmmbop

burned popcorn
smell in the JCR

Farmville

&

out

What's in and what's out?

E-mail your ideas to BROOKS.TORCH@GMAIL.COM.

Passing the torch



Megan Williams
Contributing Writer

In the fall of 1947, a fifteen-year-old freshman entered Room 207 in Brooks Hall, where he would remain for the entirety of his undergraduate studies as well as a year of graduate school.

There he found joy and adventure in things such as perfecting his golf skills in the Brooks Quadrangle and witnessing Dr. Lorena Steech triumph

in a donkey race against President W.R. White. After his journeys in Baylor University, he eventually became the president of Wayland Baptist University, all the while treasuring the precious moments that he spent in Brooks Hall.

As a child, I grew up listening to stories of my Baylor heritage from my grandfather, Wallace E. Davis. His tales of Brooks Hall, Room 207, and the wonders that awaited any who could resist the lure of practical jokes and manage to arrive to class on time. During my time here I know that I have

made memories that will last me a lifetime.

From watching movies in the quad, to feeling like I stepped into a Harry Potter movie every time I enter the Brooks Dining Hall, to sending Valentine's Day bottles of Crush to unsuspecting boys, to making friends that I will treasure forever... Brooks has given me so much over the past two years. Tradition isn't just a long-established way of thinking or acting, it is also the act of handing down the little moments of bliss that make up your life.

Samuel Palmer Brooks

said in his speech to the senior class of 1931 that "because of what Baylor has meant to you in the past, because of what she will mean to you in the future...have a care for her."

As we enter into this semester, which for some is the last semester of freshman year and for others is the final semesters of their time here at Baylor, let us take time to appreciate the torch that we have been handed, and make memories that will last a lifetime. Who knows what treasured stories we could be telling to loved ones in years to come?

FineArts FORECAST



Anson Jablonski
Staff Writer

This edition of the FaF is dedicated to "SI", my #1 fan.

E-mail me if you want an event to be in the Forecast!

The Fine Arts Forecast features as many performances and exhibits featuring Baylor students as possible.

Unless otherwise noted, all events are at 7:30 pm in Jones Concert Hall (in the McCrary Music Building) and **totally free** of charge.

Baylor Opera

Presenting Albert Herring by Benjamin Britten. Performances Thursday, January 28 through Sunday, January 31 (7:30 Thur-Sat, 3:00 Sun) in the Hooper-Schaefer Fine Arts Center. Ticket information at the Theater Department box office [254-710-1865].

Harmony for Haiti

Tuesday, February 2. The School of Music presents a concert dedicated to the victims of the Haiti earthquake. A voluntary donation will be taken (admission is free).

Symphonic Band

Friday, February 5.

Wind Ensemble

Monday, February 8.

Concert Jazz Ensemble

Thursday, February 18.

Baylor Theatre: "The Seagull"

Showing Tuesday, February 9 through Sunday, February 14 (9-13th @ 7:30, 14th @ 2:00) in the Mabey Theater (in the Hooper-Schaefer FAC). See [www.baylor.edu/theatre] for ticket information.

Martin Museum of Art

"McClanahan's McClanahans" and the University of Dallas 20th National Print Invitational. On display through Feb. 27. See [www.baylor.edu/martmuseum] for museum hours and other info.



The Brooks Experience: Why are you here?



Why I'm still here...



Nathan
Fischer
*Staff
Writer*

As many do, I question living on campus and spending the extra money to stay. I also question investing time in a community when I could just as easily be fine myself. Why, then, do I stay?

While it may cost quite a bit, we're investing in something that is beyond all things imaginable by most of us now. We who live at Brooks make up many different majors and studies and most of us have very different views. It is through these differences that we grow, that we live, and that we become a community that

encompasses something more than just our weekly dinners.

When I am walking around Baylor, it crosses my mind how fortunate I am to attend a university, and to have the opportunity that some never even fathom.

When I walk into the archway, it is, as others put it, walking into "another world." Brooks is my home away from home. It is almost as if I escape into Brooks College away from the seemingly hectic campus life.

If you are thinking about leaving, you might want to give it a second thought. What are you truly investing in for your future, what will you leave college with besides just book smarts? At Brooks it may just be more than you think.

Why I changed my mind...



Shannon
Moore
*Staff
Writer*

When going over the essay I had written to leave Brooks Residential College for the fall of 2010, I stopped to take a breath.

The year had gone by so fast and was so stressful that I still hadn't found my place within the community. Only after sending my essay in and being

released from my contract did my classes start to slow down and give me time to get to know members of the community within Brooks College.

It is for this reason that I had a change in heart and decided stay next year. Once I had time to participate in activities around the college, and when I began studying in the JCR instead of Moody Library, I began to meet all sorts of people I didn't expect to live at Brooks. The people are the reason I've decided to stay.

Why I'm coming back...



Andrew
Hwang
Cartoonist

As I enter my sixth semester, I realize that most of my time in college was spent at Brooks (although I have only lived there for three semesters).

In my opinion, Brooks has always fostered a strong sense of community, and though you may try to fight it at first, it will get you. But by no means do I mean alienate the rest of the Baylor and make friends only at Brooks. Not only the sense of community, but I also feel some form of obligation to adhere to the covenant that was formed in the first year of Brooks that I was a part of.

Also, keep in mind that I am writing this as I sit

in my apartment off campus. As with all places of living, there are good and bad things. You may hear complaints about the mandatory meal plan, thin walls, or etc. But have you ever had a so-called "DJ" live in your apartment complex and love to blast music (I mean "spin some tracks") by the pool area on a Wednesday night/early Thursday morning? Well, if you're reading this, then you probably live at Brooks so the answer would be no. I also miss being able to just walk downstairs to the JCR to procrastinate.

What I'm trying to say is that there are a few things at Brooks that I am dissatisfied with. Yet the traditions, community, and friends is what is calling me back. I guess the saying is "distance makes the heart grow fonder."

That is why I am returning to Brooks College.

Why I came...



Nosse
Ovienmhada
*Staff
Writer*

From the moment I saw it, I fell in love. It was not just the lack of community bathrooms I was excited about, but the community itself.

I really enjoyed the centralized community areas and the idea of community dining. It's been months since my first visit to Brooks, and I am excited to say that the community here is better than I envisioned. I couldn't imagine spending my first year anywhere else.

In the summer of 2009, I came to Baylor University on a campus tour. My tour guide took us around Baylor and to all the residential halls. The last residence we stopped at was Brooks Residential College.

Journey to the Cross



Kyndall
Renfro
Chaplain

"[The first year I practiced Lent] . . . God worked WONDERS in my little heart as I turned my attention from what I thought I needed to what He wanted for me." ~Amanda Beck, Lecturer, Modern Foreign Language Dept.

"Lent . . . isn't that a Catholic thing?"

I've heard this question a number of times, which—aside from possibly sounding a bit demeaning towards Catholicism—demonstrates a prevailing lack of awareness regarding the church calendar. Lent, in fact, has been around since the fourth century and is practiced worldwide by a number of Christians—not only Catholics, but mainline denominations and a growing percentage of evangelical congregations.

So what is Lent exactly? It is the 40 days before Easter in which the church emphasizes repentance and self-examination, often accompanied by fasting. Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent.

"The solemnity of Ash Wednesday and the practice of wearing ashes, in particular, are very important to me. I think it's really important to begin the season where we remember our mortality and our sinfulness with an outward and visible acknowledgment of that fact.

Having people come up to you throughout the day and ask you to explain what is on your forehead literally forces you to remember why it is there." ~Jennifer Atwood, Brooks College Resident.

My husband and I had never fully experienced Lent in a church setting until last year, and our first time was so meaningful that we will never again let another Lenten season pass by without our participation. For me, I always knew Easter should seem special, but honestly, it always felt like any other Sunday aside from the flowery dresses and Easter hats. Then when I practiced Lent for the first time, not only Christ's death but also His resurrection took on new significance.

Various other Brooks' members have shared similar stories with me about the importance of this season in their lives. Many of them have invented creative ways of fasting that made the season especially meaningful to them—from giving up television to abstaining from weekend trips home to refusing to straighten one's hair to fasting from coffee.

"Not only does the fasting of Lent enable the Lord to do new things in a person's life, it also prepares the person's heart for the celebration of Jesus' resurrection at Easter. Before [practicing Lent for the first time], I was not extremely excited about Easter, but after undergoing Lent, I found Easter to be an incredibly joyous time when the presence of the newly resurrected Lord was palpable in my life." ~Zachary



PHOTO BY KATY MCDOWALL

Beck, Resident Tutor.

"For as long as I can remember, regardless of what church I attended, my family has observed Lent as a spiritual discipline of fasting from something that could potentially distract us from Christ by being too highly prioritized in our lives. Each year as I fast from different things I love, I find myself drawn closer to God as He shows me His utmost importance in my life." ~Emilie Moore, Brooks College Resident.

The church calendar is a physical way to retell the story of Jesus year after year. Rather than trying to appreciate the story in our spirits with no help from our bodies, instead we reenact the story in our worship, in our fasting, in our praying, in our use of color, etc. Lent in particular is the part of the Gospel story where we relive Jesus' trek to Golgotha. It is a time of cross-gazing sorrow and repentance. At first glance it may seem that a morbid time of gloom does not belong in worship, but when we recall the Christian story, we remember that there

is no resurrection without death, no healing without brokenness, no hope without the cross. Sometimes "churchy" people with their church posters and Jesus bumper stickers lead us to believe that Christianity is all about smiles and happiness and easy-living—which makes those of us who are realists turn up our noses and label those happy-folk as frauds.

Lent reminds us that pain is real. Ash Wednesday reminds us that we are but dust.

There really can be no Easter morning without a Lenten journey to the cross.

Would you like to join us on the journey? An Ash Wednesday service will be held in Robbins Chapel on February 17th. We will gather every Monday afternoon in the chapel during the season of Lent to practice prayer together. The colors and symbols in and around the chapel will remind us the next forty days are a somber season.

And then Easter will come. Amen.

Promises



Emilie
Moore
*Staff
Writer*

It occurs to me that there are times in our lives when circumstances arouse thoughts of greater-than-every-day caliber. There is indeed a time for casual thoughts, and a time for ponderings of higher intensity – a season for everything under the sun.

For example, when I pull up to a stop sign, I think of the importance of looking in all directions for traffic before entering the intersection. While this is tremendously necessary, it still comes to me casually and as nothing out of the ordinary. On the other hand, when my best friend makes the decision to commit to spending the rest of her life with some dude, the situation brings me to rather less common cogitations.

Okay, to be fair, he's not just some dude. He's Paul. Fine fellow with excellent qualifications, pedigree, and credentials. Or at least, he's terrific and in love. But it has taken me seven months to get used to the idea of my dear friend Shannon being engaged...and she's not engaged anymore. That short interim period ended January 2. And

what's more, I'm still not used to it.

To bring it back to the thought concept: during all the preparation for my friend's wedding day I found myself wistfully reminiscing on the years Shannon and I have known each other, all the history we share, and all the things we know about each other.

Most of the time, I take for granted the fact that we're chums, because it's just been that way for so long. I'm sure something similar has happened to most people – when the uncommon takes place, we re-evaluate, re-question, remember; we think with a broader scope than usual.

This occasion had me considering a good many things, not the least being the fact that I no longer have the esteemed high place in Shannon's priorities. It is natural that her husband is first on her mind. I suppose that's only fair since they'll be together forever. But, I felt myself complaining, what about me? I have to relinquish some things so that I don't get in the way of a beautiful marriage. At some point during all this thinking, I realized that I am simply jealous. Not in a vengeful sort of way, but in a remember-the-old-days manner.

Moving beyond the petty 'me' thoughts, I also began to wonder

how anyone can make such a commitment with such certainty. I admire both of them for that; as I stood on the stage during the wedding, I could see Paul's face and the absolute peace in his eyes. I could hear a little quaver in Shannon's voice as she said her vows, but her posture and her tone displayed her firmness and confidence. Even while holding back the tsunami of tears, I understood what a thing of gravity I was witnessing.

Indeed, a commitment to anything is a matter of not only rejoicing, but solemnity. When we choose to join a club, we commit to serving well. When we sign a contract, we commit to fulfilling its requirements. When we make vows in marriage, we commit to remaining together in every circumstance.

As I witnessed such a glorious sacrament, I also remembered the commitment I made to God in response to His initiative, namely His death on the cross for my salvation. I find it so beautiful that this reality of charity, responsible living together, service without expectation of return, and loyalty amidst difficulty finds its way into our Community Covenant. It is a picture of the way Christ lived, and the model that we are to follow as His creation, His children.

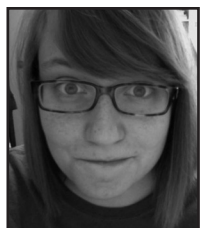
I have just thought of something else that's beautiful, and that is when these greater-than-every-day thoughts become part of the life we live every day. Sometimes it takes a rare experience to start the wheels turning, but I am now resolved not to let those big picture observations and reflections fade away after the big event is over.

This life-changing occurrence in my friend's life has now impacted me in a way I had not anticipated. Who knew that some dude named Paul could indirectly bring me to examine myself and my function in community!?

Speaking of community, living in a family is also a commitment. It is not easy or tidy or constantly gleeful. However, it should be simple: Love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, mind and strength, and love your neighbour as yourself.

I am excited to see our community press in to even greater depths of active love for each other. We haven't signed a marriage certificate, but we are responsible to each other in such a similar way; we chose this community, it chose us, and so we agreed to serve one another. What a beautiful thing it is to commit to give of yourself. The next time you're at a stop sign, I hope you think of this.

10 WAYS TO WASTE TIME



Shannon
Moore
*Staff
Writer*

- 1 Write for the Torch or go to a Council Meeting:** It obviously works because I should definitely be reading right now for one of my classes. Not only that, but getting involved at Brooks is definitely a way to meet new people.
- 2 Clean:** It is a productive way to procrastinate. Not only that, but the fact that you'll have a clean room could help you focus on your homework when done.
- 3 Youtube How-To:** From learning how to snowboard to learning how to make candles, Youtube is a good way to learn something new while still avoiding your homework.
- 4 Sing Everything You Say:** Self explanatory.
- 5 Knitting:** Taking up knitting is not only time consuming, but also very stress relieving.
- 6 Take up a New Instrument:** You will be sure to spend lots and lots of time trying figure out new songs.
- 7 Baylorguys.com:** They might make fun of Brooks every once in a while, but hey, you have to admit they are pretty funny.
- 8 BuzzFeed.com:** "Pants on the ground", "lolcats", and anything hilarious worth reading will be on this website.
- 9 Reorganize:** Whether it's your binders or your desk, it can always help to try to make sure everything is where it's supposed to be.
- 10 Sleep:** Definitely the most obvious option! Considering we're all college students this is also one of the better uses of time.

Get to know your Community Leaders!

CL Spotlight: Emanuel Gawrieh

FLOOR: 1M

YEAR: JUNIOR



1. WHAT IS YOUR DEGREE/MAJOR/MINOR?

Major: Philosophy

Minor: Political Science

2. WHAT IS YOUR HOME-TOWN?

White Oak, TX

3. WHAT ACTIVITIES ARE YOU INVOLVED IN?

Baylor University Student Court, Student Advisory Board to Judicial Affairs, Student Advisory Board

to Campus Living & Learning, Model United Nations, the Academy for Leader Development and Civic Engagement.

4. WHAT ARE YOUR LIKES?

Technology, philosophy, good conversation, reading, Monster energy drinks and King-sized Snickers bars for breakfast.

5. WHAT ARE YOUR DISLIKES?

Microsoft, sushi, rain, all-nighters, stress.

6. WHAT ARE SOME FUN FACTS ABOUT YOU?

I really enjoy working on classic cars, I am an early morning person, my favorite figure in history is Albert Einstein.



7. WHAT IS YOUR PURPOSE AS A CL?

To inspire the men and women I come in contact with to exceed their own expectations of their potential, and in doing so, work for the greater glorification of our Lord.

9. WHAT ARE YOUR DREAMS AND AMBITIONS?

I hope to one day be in a position to utilize, to the greatest extent, my calling and desire to serve others in order to work toward the greater good.

8. WHY DID YOU CHOOSE BROOKS?

Without a doubt, the community that it encompasses. There are very few places on college campuses where individuals can truly feel free to express themselves and grow together with others in a meaningful and long-lasting way, all the while growing daily in their spirituality. Brooks College, to me, is the sole representation of the culmination of all that I believe to be essential to an engaging life.

10. WHAT IS ONE OF THE BEST PARTS OF THE CL EXPERIENCE?

The ability to meet and grow close to such a great group of people. My relationships with the individuals within the College are truly unique, and those relationships alone compose the most treasured component of serving as a Community Leader.



photos courtesy of emanuel gawrieh

The Man Behind the Screen



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*Staff
Writer*

CNN anchor Anderson Cooper stormed the headlines this past week when he stepped out of his role as a reporter and rescued a Haitian child from a looting turned violent.

Cooper ran toward the bloodied Haitian child and dragged him to safety. The stunned child was most likely suffering from a concussion. Cooper then handed the child off to medics, though it is unknown what happened to the child, we can all rest knowing he is safe from the violence of distraught citizens.

Anderson Cooper is known as an American journalist, and television personality. He currently is a primary anchor for CNN, and host of his own show Anderson Cooper

360. He is the youngest son of writer Wyatt Emory Cooper, and shipping fortune heiress Gloria Vanderbilt.

Though Anderson grew up with wealthy and connected, he was always determined to make a path of his own. Anderson got his start in his twenties crossing the borders of war-ridden countries to report news to the country he had left behind. He traveled and reported for years in countries like Rwanda, Bosnia, and Somalia.

His passion for people and culture set him apart from other reporters and gave him a chance to host the ABC reality show, "The Mole".

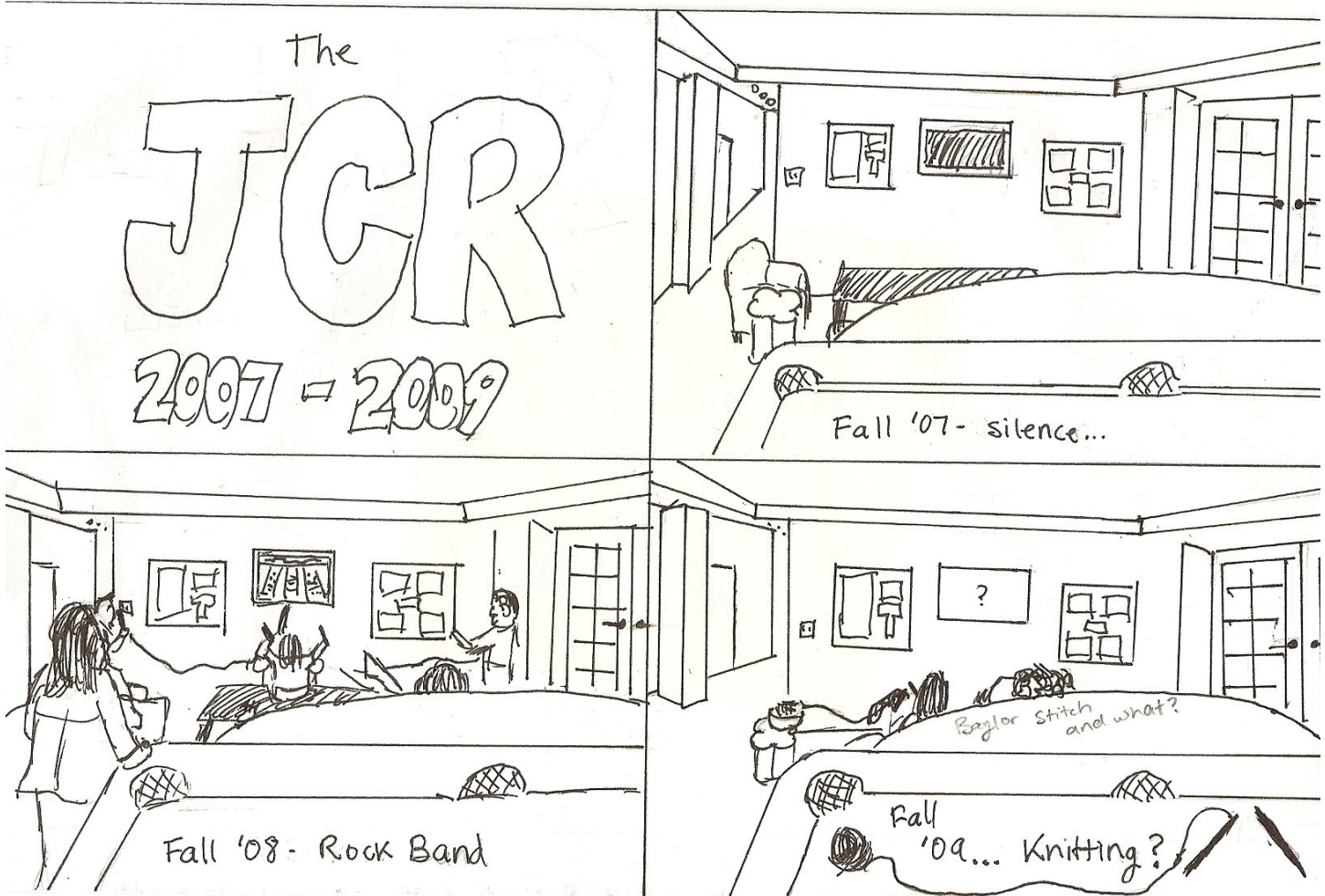
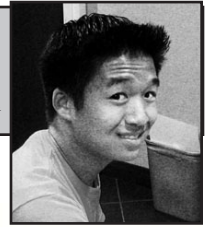
"The Mole" was his primetime debut, and led to his first job on network television.

Since then, Anderson Cooper has transformed into the man we all know and love. He is a humanitarian, and will always be the Silver Fox.



TorchJoons

Andrew
Hwang
Cartoonist



HANDING OUT THE TORCH SINCE FALL 2007

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Shannon Moore	Staff Writer	Katy McDowall	Editor

Join the Torch team!

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