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# THE TORCH

the brooks college newsletter

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# Meet Your Brooks College Governing Board

New president, vice president and secretary-treasurer elected for 2010-2011



Nathan  
Fischer  
*Staff  
Writer*

The Torch staff would like you to welcome with us the newly elected members of the Brooks College Council for the upcoming school year.

## President Emilie Moore



Emilie is grateful for everybody's votes and is looking forward to working with her new council members. She feels blessed to be able to serve, but knows that there is a great weight on her shoulders to fill the position that Amber Como currently fills.

Following two awesome presidents is something that Emilie was

worried about from the beginning, but she knows she will try her upmost to uphold the standards of Brooks College.

Looking forward to working with Jennifer and Chase, Emilie has some great ideas to hit the ground running. She would like to provide an accepting appearance to the council, not just a group that makes decisions. To go about doing this, there will be new methods in place to get people involved on the council right from the beginning.

But although she wants people to be more involved on the council, there should be a more equal ground within the college. People should be willing to come to the council with questions and the council should be able to reciprocate with answers at all times. The council is here to get the students involved and to work for the students.

Emilie also states that there should be an emphasis on relationship building within the college; the council should be "vigilant" in perusing a connected community.

In regards to council transparency, Emilie states that is the responsibility not only of the council to provide information, but also of the college members to have the willingness to obtain that information. At the end of our interview, Emilie noted that it is very important for Brooks College to grow as a community by acting selflessly in all aspects.

## Vice President Jennifer Tran



Jennifer is elated to be elected to serve this community which she has such high hopes for. She also looks forward to working with Chase and Emilie. While transparency is important to her, she states that her number one priority is to get the community involved.

During Baylor's Welcome Week, she wants to attract new members to the college to be involved as possible upfront so that they may form a base to be involved year around. To attract people to the council is of the upmost importance to Jennifer as she awaits her chance to give back to Brooks what it has given her.

## Secretary-Treasurer Chase Kanaly



Chase feels privileged

to have been living in Brooks for three years, as it has become his "home away from home."

His commitment to serving the community goes back to freshman year when he had the other leaders explain to him what it meant to be a leader. He is ecstatic that he has been given the opportunity to be a small part in forming what Brooks College will become for the future generations that live here.

Transparency is one of the first priorities in the mind of the new Secretary/Treasurer. He believes things like summaries of council meetings and/or videos to share what the council has discussed are of great importance if the council is going to try and make other members of the college feel involved. Chase does note that some things don't need to have the privilege of being discussed outside the meetings.

E-mail is not the best forms of communication and he will take this into account when coming up with creative ways to inform the college of council happenings. He is looking forward to finding people to get involved with the council and listening to their ideas.

These three have been elected to serve great roles here at Brooks College and are here to serve you. If you have any questions regarding their plans for next year, please don't hesitate to contact them.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

<b>Last Day of Spring Classes!</b>	4/30
<b>May Ball</b>	4/30
<b>Quiz Bowl</b> (Brooks vs. HRC, Alexander Rdg. Room 3pm)	5/1
<b>Special Study Days</b>	5/3-5/4
<b>Pancake Break</b>	5/4
<b>Final Exams</b>	5/5-5/11
<b>Residence Halls Close</b>	5/12
<b>Commencement</b>	5/14-5/15
<b>Fall Classes Begin</b>	8/23

## Torch News:

Are you interested in being on  
The Torch staff next year?  
Positions available include staff writer,  
photographer, cartoonist and editor.

Send an e-mail to [Brooks.Torch@gmail.com](mailto:Brooks.Torch@gmail.com) or  
[Katy\\_McDowall@baylor.edu](mailto:Katy_McDowall@baylor.edu)  
for more information.

## May Ball Tonight



Nosse  
Ovienmhada  
*Staff  
Writer*

Hey Everyone,  
As Com-trad Co-chair I  
just wanted to remind all  
of you that Mayball is this  
Friday!!!!

May Ball is the last  
event of Brooks Residen-  
tial College this year. So  
if you have not purchased  
your tickets make sure

to do so at the front desk  
of the junior commons  
room. Tickets are avail-  
able for one for 10 dollars  
or two for 12 dollars. Tick-  
ets will also be available  
at the front desk during  
the event. Those are great  
prices so do not miss your  
chance.

Attire is for men are  
tux/suits and for wom-  
en its elegant (ball like  
gowns/prom) dresses.

I Hope you call all join  
us on the terrace at 9pm!!!

-Nosse Ovienmhada



PHOTO BY JUSTIN ROSS

## 2010-2011 Student Body Officers



**Michael Wright**  
Student Body  
President



**Cristina Galvan**  
External Vice  
President



**Vote Today!**  
**8a.m.-5p.m.**  
[www.baylor.edu/sg/vote](http://www.baylor.edu/sg/vote)

**Michael Lyssy vs.  
Ross Watson**  
Internal Vice  
President

For more information visit: [www.baylor.edu/studentgovernment](http://www.baylor.edu/studentgovernment)  
Photos by Jed Dean, Photo Editor of The Baylor Lariat

# Farewell Brooks College, My Home



Jennifer  
Groves  
*Contributing  
Writer*

My day of graduation looms near and with it the day that I must move out of this place, a place that became my home for three years, the longest I have lived in any one building.

I was very fortunate to be one of the original members of Brooks College and sign the covenant hanging in the JCR.

My love for this place grew as I learned to see it as something beyond a building or even my friends whom are here. As a senior, none of us can wait to graduate.

We are so ready to be done. But, when I realize that it means I can't live here anymore, my heart does sadden.

So, to those of you who are lucky enough to remain here enjoy each moment given to you. Those twenty minutes you waste



PHOTO BY KATY MCDOWALL

chatting at the front desk, the 2 and a half-hour dinners with friends, the all-night study sessions in the seminar room or Great Hall.

Cherish the times. It really does go by much more quickly than you imagine it will.

Beyond just encouraging you to love living in Brooks, I want to encourage you as a soon-to-be

graduate.

Here are the things I would wish for you to accomplish: befriend a professor you really enjoyed in class, learn to be a friend to someone you originally found difficult to be around, strive every day to balance the social with the academic never really sacrificing one entirely for the other, and find a church home as

soon as you can.

Some of the most influential moments of my life have occurred while at Baylor and even within the confines of Brooks College, and I will never be the same person I was when I arrived on campus back in August 2006. I hope the same to be true for you when your graduation day comes.

## THE COMMUNITY NEEDS YOU... NEXT YEAR!

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 next year? You can join any time, so visit and find the one that fits you!

COMMUNITY AND TRADITIONS

ARTS AND ACADEMICS

CAMPUS LIFE

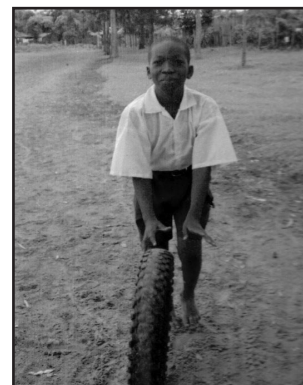
SERVICE AND MINISTRY

## 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.

*Make sure Victor is taken care of for the summer!*

*Donate a dollar at the front desk.*



## 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](mailto: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!



# Leaving some advice behind



Daniel  
Abernathy  
*Contributing  
Writer*

I moved into Brooks College in the fall of 2007 as a freshman at Baylor. I knew very little about Brooks - I had skimmed the website, applied, and been accepted.

I also knew very little about Baylor; my parents both attended schools in Florida and didn't pick sides when it came to Texas schools. The only experience I'd had with Baylor before I applied was the Fall Premiere of 2005, when my girlfriend convinced a small group of us to visit. We're still dating, by the way - she's Emily Phillips, a Community Leader on the 3rd floor of Brooks.

I knew nobody at Baylor except Emily and our high school friend Jennifer Atwood, so I was ready to make friends. Unfortunately, I didn't make a lot of friends in the School of Music, probably because I wasn't in marching band - and because I was a music major, I didn't make a lot of friends in the Honors Program.

Finally, I switched from music to University Scholars, with an emphasis in International Studies. I have met a lot of great people in the Political Science Department and in

the University Scholars Program, but I still don't know many of them well.

There is one place at Baylor where I made friendships that have continued - Brooks College. I know that my story isn't like everybody's. A lot of Brooks students do make their best friends in other programs and organizations. Like me, however, there are many students at Brooks who have made great friends here.

I have accepted a position as a Community Leader at the Arbors apartments for 2010-2011, so I will not be living at Brooks College next year.

It was an extremely difficult decision to make - I'd long imagined myself living at Brooks for four years, and I know many people that will be. The opportunity was hard to turn down, however.

Because I am leaving Brooks for good, I would like to leave behind some suggestions for the next few years of Brooks College.

These aren't my ideas - but I think they will benefit the College for years to come.

## **To Brooks residents:**

- Live at Brooks for more than 2 years. That's what it's built for, and you'll appreciate it later, if not now.

- Don't be the kid who spends all their time away from Brooks. You moved here because you said you would participate in



PHOTO BY KATY MCDOWALL

the community - so do! It's worth it.

- Don't just attend Brooks activities - invite your friends to come. The more people that get involved, the better Brooks will become. The 4th floor guys have been a great example by bringing the entire hall to Sunday night dinners and to Brooks Olympics.

- Join a committee. They're fun, trust me.

## **To the College Council:**

- Remember that blank wall space behind the ping pong tables? Put up

a bulletin board introducing the Community Leaders and the College Council. Add a long-term calendar, too. I'll be checking to make sure you did this.

- Advertise by word-of-mouth. Flyers and emails are okay, but talking to people really works.

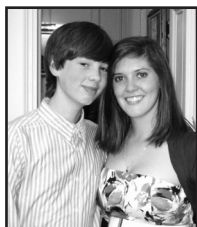
- Delegate work, or your committee will die (like A&A did).

- Study in the library or the seminar room or the great hall - not the Council Office. I did the latter, and you don't get to meet as many people that way.

Thanks to Caroline Barta, Emilie Moore, Lindsay Putnam, Lauren Nowacki, Jennifer Atwood, Nosse Ovienmhada, Nathan Fischer and Nick Batts for contributing photos to the cover of this issue.



# Letter to friends



Tiffany  
Stark  
*Contributing  
Writer*

I am leaving home and my family. I have only been here 2 years, but it doesn't take that long to have people change your life. Brooks College is one of the best decisions I have ever made.

Many of you have

helped me find more pieces of myself here.

Lindsey Turner, you will always be my very first Baylor best friend. I know God has great things for you. Anson Jablinski, thank you for being you. Your views and random excitements have left imprints.

Lindsay Putnam! You are so, so sweet. I feel that I have become a better person having met you.

Last and most definitely not least, Brooke Bor-

mann: you are a beautiful, wonderful person. You have made my last year here wonderful and better than my first. Thank you for being exactly who you are. I have felt encouraged by your honesty and love for the Lord. Your laughter is contagious and your heart is so, so good. There are so many people that have helped me feel loved and welcomed so I will sum up the rest of you with this: if we have had a conversation in the JCR,

extended meal time in the Great Hall, chatted in the council office, at the front desk, or in the quad- you are important to me and I consider you a friend.

"Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances, for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18)." I love you all. Truly. Thank you for being apart of my journey. All My Love, Tiffany Stark

## Brooks Residents Care for Creation



Sally Ann  
Moyer  
*Staff  
Writer*

Brooks Hall hosted a sustainable lunch on April 20 in celebration of Earth Week.

The lights were turned off except in the kitchen area and the lunch included hummus wraps and black bean soup. Eating food grown sustainably is one way to care for creation.

Baylor University promotes environmentally friendly activities through its Sustainability Program. For many students, though, those efforts end when they return home.

"I've always wanted to be environmentally friendly but my family isn't into it. Houston is super un-environmentally friendly but I'd heard Baylor was and it's really easy here because there's

a recycle bin in the trash room," said Stephanie Allen, 19, a Brooks resident from Lake Jackson, Texas.

While she has enjoyed her new recycling habit, it's hard to keep up when she goes home.

"It's difficult to recycle in Houston because you have to go to a separate place and get special containers," Allen said.

She has found other ways, though, to be environmentally friendly.

"At home, we conserve energy pretty well. Because I live in Houston, the air-conditioning bill is out the wazoo. I leave the windows and doors open in the summer," she said.

Other Brooks residents find recycling can be easy even at home.

"We have a different box for recycling," said Debbie Thompson, 19, from Longmont, Colo.

She, too, has found other ways to save the environment besides just recycling.

"I walk to work some-

times," Thompson said.

The availability of recycle bins certainly makes recycling easier.

"Whenever there's a bin, I put things in the recycling," said David Tucker, 19, from Flower Mound, Texas.

Some of Tucker's summer tips are not only environmentally friendly but also money savers.

"I normally try to carpool with friends. I don't know if I do that to be environmentally friendly or just because it's cheaper," he said.

To brighten up a room, natural light is a popular option.

"I always turn off the lights around my house and we open the shades," Tucker said.

Installing energy efficient-light bulbs for when the lights are on is another helpful idea.

"We don't keep lights on. If we're not in the room, we turn lights off and we use the spirally bulbs," said Grayson

Koval, 19, from Prosper, Texas.

During the summer, Brooks residents can care for the environment in entertaining ways. Riding a bicycle, staring a garden and playing outside instead of spending all day on Facebook are simple ways to conserve energy.

Farmers markets are another fun and tasty option. Austin, Dallas and Houston all host weekly markets. Their websites are easy to look up online. "The website <http://www.fruitstands.com> provides a national directory for farmers markets, listed by state. Using reusable shopping bags and water bottles are other ways to simultaneously save money and the environment. Brooks residents should remember to recycle when they return home for the summer.

"Check with your city; see what you can recycle. That's what we do. If you just make an effort, it's really easy," Koval said.



# A Tribute to Ann, and Other Unforgettable Elements



Emilie  
Moore  
*Staff  
Writer*

In a community such as ours, there are things that do change from time to time, such as the presence of bronze busts, wood paneling on walls, and ant colonies in the Quad. Our leadership changes, the Archway whiteboard changes. Our roommates change, and so does the channel on the TV.

In such a shifting sort of world, it is good to know that some things are constant. That nice tree in front of the chapel, Dr. Henry's wise words, and the incorporation of potatoes into every Sunday supper. And Ann Garner.

Ann has always been here for us. In fact, I'm trying to figure out how I managed before college without her. She could basically write her own advice column, and it would beat out all those other "psychologists" or

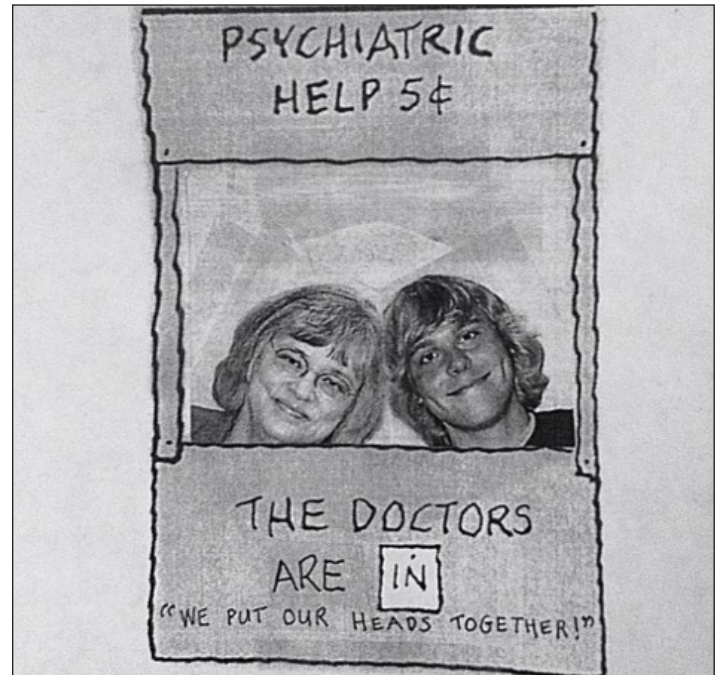
"kindly mother figures" who change their names and decide to answer the inquiries of the masses.

So much depends on her - important things we don't even know, like making sure the fire alarm goes off and putting the strawberry bars in the ice cream bin. ....well not those things, but things like them. Her shift is communication central, she talks to all the high-up folk, and she brings her special Christmas tree in December. These would not happen without Ann.

We are all fond of Ann's sweet banter and charitable comments. I need my high-five from her every day. On the days she's gone, I feel odd, like one might after skipping an important meal - there is something missing at the very core of our family.

Ms. G, Ms. Ann, Ann, Mrs. Garner...her name is a joy to speak and to hear.

She has seen us through so many events in our lives. She has seen our members come in year after year and graduate year after year. She



comes in on Sundays to finish jobs. May each of us take our cue from her; her work ethic and availability to us are examples of how we should live in community.

Ann has made her way into a special Ann-shaped place in my heart, and there she will forever be. I am convinced that when the nice tree blows over, Dr. Henry leaves us to become president, and potatoes go extinct, Ann will

still be here.

She will still be sipping her wee carton of orange juice and waving genially at us as we pass by. She will still be posting photos to the Facebook group and making copies in the back room. She will still be making an impact on our lives and giving us yet another reason to love where we live.

Thank you, Ann Garner.

We love you.

*Sammy says...*



I hope your  
vacation is as  
good as mine...

**in**

time travel

Diadeloso

finals

Strawberry Fruit  
Bars in the Great  
Hall

grey hairs

FiveFingers shoes

using The Torch as a  
doormat...

earthquakes

volcanoes

sprinklers on while it's  
raining

**&**

**out**

# Want some extra cash for summer?



Ashley  
Davis  
*Staff  
Writer*

Then read on! I'm sure you already know all about book buybacks from either having been in college for at least one semester or from all of the signs posted around campus. But here's something you might not know. The university bookstore or off campus bookstore doesn't always give you back the maximum amount of money that

your books are worth.

So, here's what I do in order to make sure I get the most cash out of all those books I pretended to read, or read and hated. First of all, go to [www.bigwords.com](http://www.bigwords.com) and type in your textbook ISBN numbers. This wonderful website will then compare all of the websites that buy back text books and tell you how much you can get from each one. The best part is that a lot of these websites will pay for the shipping of your big old bulky text book and are rather quick about sending you your check in the mail.

Sometimes you won't see a price you're willing to work with on [bigwords.com](http://bigwords.com), and you can try listing your book on [ebay.com](http://ebay.com) or on the [amazon.com](http://amazon.com) marketplace. The drawback there is that you have no guarantee of someone buying your book at the price you set. Finally, if your book is going to a new edition and not really worth anything and you don't want to keep it, you have two options. You can burn it (which is not very productive...but could make you feel better), or you could try posting it on a book exchange website

like [bookmooch.com](http://bookmooch.com) or [paperbackswap.com](http://paperbackswap.com) so that someone who wants it can get some use out of it. You do have to pay to ship the book to the person who wants it, but shipping a book through USPS Media Mail only costs one to four dollars, depending on how heavy your book is. This way, someone gets some use out of the book that you hated and maybe you can find a free book that you can get some use out of as well.

Ok, well, good luck trying to maximize your textbook buybacks, and have a great summer!

## The Wavering Journey



Kyndall  
Renfro  
*Chaplain*

Two dead days and then the finals flurry will be unleashed. Will you be ready?

Personally I waver. Some days I am bunched down with serious focus. You too may have reached this paranoid frenzy where all you seem to think about—and even dream about at night—are equations, definitions, or dates (depending on your course of study). I for one had the pathetic experience of dreaming in Greek.

Then on other days I am quite the opposite. I think they call it denial. I am so ready for summer that I

convince myself it is already here and I am quite capable of finding plenty to do as long as it does not require opening a book. The dizzying fluctuation between these two extremes at this time of year seems inescapable.

Equally dizzying to me are the ways people talk about God. Some people talk as if God was seriously focused on each one of us; God's thoughts are consumed by people. Others counter that no, God is basically in denial of our existence (if God even exists). God is distant, silent, absent. So which is true?

Personally I waver. Some days I am utterly convinced of God's real presence among us. Then some days I question, some days I encounter unanswered prayers, some days I see the violence in

the world and cannot see where God is. I suppose as a chaplain I should at least attempt to resolve the issue of why God so often seems absent, but sometimes when people try to answer this question, they provide trite answers that simply are not satisfying to those who are really asking the question. If you are really asking the question, I want to respect that. Not all questions have easy answers. Personally I have done a lot of thinking on the matter. I have even accumulated several pieces of an answer, but not all my pieces fit together as nicely as I would like.

Every single semester, as I waver between focused study and lazy denial, finals still come no matter what state I'm in, and every semester (13 semesters of higher

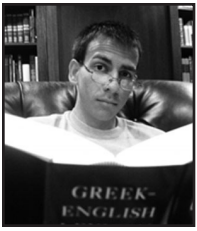
education to be precise) I survive. I suppose faith has been that way for me too. Every season as I waver between feeling convinced and feeling skeptical, faith still comes. I discover a measure of certainty in the midst of the confusion. Hope in the rubble and a glimpse of God in the void. And that's what keeps me going, keeps me asking, keeps me searching.

Now, I realize "hope in the rubble" is no real answer to the big questions. It is just the story of my journey. And I suppose at the end of the day, it is our journeys I find more intriguing than the answers. I am grateful for the journey I have shared with you this academic year.

Grace and peace to you as you continue,  
Kyndall Renfro



# When “Sound” Doctrine Doesn’t Make the Cut



Alex  
Tworkowski  
*Staff  
Writer*

Is it really possible that our concepts of God can reach a point when they are worthless? Can we pride ourselves on our theologies and yet miss God?

In the end, who does what is right in the sight of God—the student of Christianity who takes satisfaction in his knowledge of the ins and outs of “orthodoxy,” or the “ignorant heretic” who saves a person’s life?

Let’s see. One day, a man well-versed in the intricacies of Mosaic and rabbinic law—Scripture calls this person a lawyer—approaches Jesus and asks Him, “Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?” Knowing his intention to test Him, Jesus responds, “What is written in the Law? How do you read it?” The lawyer then confidently responds by quoting from memory the Mosaic command to love God with everything and to love one’s neighbor as oneself. Jesus reminds him that if he obeys this command, he will live. Satisfied with the direction his inquiry has taken, the lawyer then pulls out the dagger of his pride and thrusts it toward Jesus: “And who is my neighbor?”

When confronted by troublemakers, Jesus responds in His usual fashion: He tells a story. He

talks about a man who was traveling between two cities and was attacked by robbers, who stole his things and beat him, leaving him to die on the road on which he was traveling. While the man was lying on the road, a priest sees him, and passes him on the other side. A typical Roman-built road in Palestine was narrow; the priest must have been pretty hard-hearted in order to be able to pass the wounded traveler a few feet away on the “other side” of the road.

Another person comes down the road and follows the priest’s suit; this person, however, is a Levite, a man part of a Jewish tribe set apart from the rest of Israel by God to maintain the Temple sanctuary. He too is a victim of a callous heart and neglects to aid the wounded man.

A third man comes down the road and sees the bloodied traveler. He, unlike the previous two travelers, has compassion on the man and comes to his aid. He tends and bandages his wounds, and brings him into an inn. He charges the innkeeper to take care of the man and promises to reimburse him for his service. The difference between this man and the other two is his cultural and ethnic background; he is a Samaritan. Jews despised the Samaritans because they were the racially impure offspring of Jews and Babylonians and held incorrect views on the worship of God. They believed that God



PHOTO BY KATY MCDOWALL

should be worshiped on Mount Gerizim and not in Jerusalem.

Using His story, Jesus corners the lawyer into facing the truth about the identity of his “neighbor.” He asks him, “Which of these three do you think proved to be a neighbor to the man who fell into the robbers’ hands?” The lawyer, reluctant to admit that the half-breed Samaritan helped the man, answers Him, “The one who showed mercy toward him.” Having exposed the error of his indoctrination into the system of loving the puffing-up of knowledge rather than his neighbor, Jesus commands him to “go and do the same” as the Samaritan. He must love even the most foreign stranger because, in fact, he is his neighbor, created by the same God.

The one who Jesus looks favorably upon is not the priest who is entrusted with the Law and is in charge of atoning for the sins of people (including himself) with sacrifices, nor is it the chosen

Levite who preserves the purity of the Temple. Jesus commends the Samaritan who shows mercy and not sacrifice. His theology or ecclesiology may have not been right, but his heart and actions certainly were correct.

At the end of the day, we must figure out—with the power of the Spirit—the condition of our hearts. Are we taking pride and comfort in our established knowledge of church doctrine, or are we desperately seeking God’s heart and acting on His desires?

While I am not necessarily advocating the neglect of theology and the scriptural command to teach sound doctrine, maybe we can learn from the atheist or the Buddhist who takes care of his neighbor in his deepest need. This may come as a shock, but Jesus shocks people too. He pulls them out of systems of cultural-religious stagnancy and closed-mindedness and draws them into His abundant life. Let’s give His sound doctrine a chance.

# Downfall of the Chocolate Communists



Matthew  
Carrington  
*Staff  
Writer*

This past Wednesday, April 16, I had a chance to conduct an unparalleled interview. Actually, I probably shouldn't call it a "chance" because the man I interviewed, Eloi Cole, actually time-travelled from the future for the express purpose of being interviewed; his desire was to further explain his involvement in the hadron collider mishaps in Switzerland on April 1st and April 15th. The interview went as follows:

Me: So, Mr. Cole—or do you prefer Eloi?

Mr. Cole: Eloi, if you please.

Me: Excellent. Now then, I suppose the first question is, are you really from the future?

Eloi: Indeed.

Me: Well, can you prove it?

Eloi: Of course I can prove it. Do you see what I'm wearing? A tweed suit and a bright orange fluorescent bowtie. Have you seen anyone wearing anything like this lately?

Me: No, no. But, how does that prove that you're from the future?

Eloi: Are you kidding me? This is totally going to be the style in about thirty years.

Me: Okay, I understand that, Eloi. But I still don't see how your clothing proves anything. Can you give any other proof?

Eloi: Of course I can.

Ask me a question that no one today could possibly know the answer to. Go ahead. Anything.

Me: Alright. Who's going to win the Brooks College elections after this Friday's election takes place?

Eloi: Oh, very good, very good. That's easy. I looked the names up before I left so that I could tell you: Emilie Moore, president; Jennifer Tran, vice president; Chase Kanaly, secretary-treasurer. There you have it.

Me: Well, I suppose we'll have to wait and see who wins in order to verify your response. Next question: how, and why, did you travel back in time?

Eloi: That's simple. I used a kitchen blender. All I had to do was reverse the rotation of the blades, pour in an equal parts mixture of Monster and Red Bull, and swap some of the circuitry. You press the blend button, and voila. Oh, and you also need a drop of Chucknorrium. The slow button sends you back five years every second, the medium speed ten years a second, and the fast button twenty years a second.

Me: Really? What is Chucknorrium? An undiscovered element?

Eloi: Yes. In the future we've found out that the element classified as Ununoctium in your time is actually found in Chuck Norris sweat—thus the name Chucknorrium.

Me: I see. And Chuck Norris is still living in the future where you're

from?

Eloi: Oh yes. It's a scientific fact that Chuck Norris never dies.

Me: Okay... Well, on another note, why did you try to interfere with the hadron collider in Switzerland?

Eloi: Ah, now we've gotten to the important part. The hadron collider leads to limitless power, the elimination of poverty, and Kit-Kats for everyone in the future. But it's the chocolate communists who do it. They're ruthless.

Me: And how does this apply to the hadron collider?

Eloi: Didn't you hear what I said? Limitless power! You know how lighting flies from the Emperor's hands in Star Wars Episode III? Well, it's kind of like that, except when the collider produces an antimatter singularity, it shoots out bigger lightning bolts... forever! The chocolate communists take over the collider and use the unlimited energy to power massive chocolate factories. The chocolate factories produce addictive chocolate, which is eaten by the world, and then no one has a choice but to submit to the will of the chocolate communists!

Me: I see. So that's why you tried to sabotage the collider yesterday.

Eloi: My, my. I guess it was only yesterday. Which reminds me. I have great news!

Me: Well, what is it?

Eloi: I was able to stop the chocolate communists in the future!

Me: Really? How did you do it?

Eloi: This is why I wanted to speak with you. Your college's namesake represents the abolition of the future of mankind from an eternity of chocolate communism!

Me: You mean—

Eloi: Samuel Palmer Brooks! He's the hero of the future. Everyone on earth recognizes his name!

Me: That's unreal! How did he save the future if he passed away years ago?

Eloi: Yesterday, after my failure at the hadron collider, I realized I was going to have to take a different approach, so I went back in time to 1931, grabbed Samuel Palmer Brooks after his famous speech to the seniors of all ages to come, and fetched him off to the future! Together, we infiltrated the chocolate communist headquarters. Brooks made a makeshift torch and ran throughout the entire factory, setting most of it on fire. The addicting chocolate was melted and the chocolate communists could no longer profit from the suffering of the world! Samuel Palmer Brooks is a hero!

Me: That's simply amazing! And then you just took him back?

Eloi: Well, not exactly. I took him to this time to show him Brooks College and his honorable bust, but when I arrived here it was gone.

Me: Yes. It was stolen last semester.

Eloi: I know. I'm the one who stole it—kind of.



Me: What? You're a thief!

Eloi: No, no, no. Calm down! When I brought Brooks to show him his legacy, I felt terrible that he couldn't see his bust, so I traveled a few months back in time with Brooks to retrieve it before it was stolen by its original stealers.

Me: So you're saying that you stole it to prevent

it from being stolen?

Eloi: No, not exactly.

Me: Well then, what are you saying? And where is it?

Eloi: What I'm saying is that Samuel Palmer Brooks stole his own bust. He told me that he would hide it in a safe place for you to find in the future. He didn't want me to meddle in time anymore, for fear that some-

thing even worse than the chocolate communists could happen. I came to talk with you to tell you where the bust is.

Me: Where is it? Is it on the Baylor campus?

Eloi: It's over in the—

And then two secret agent-looking guys barged in and charged toward Eloi. A moment later, Eloi pulled out a kitchen blender from behind

his chair and disappeared right before my eyes. I was briefly interrogated by the two men, and then they left. I haven't been contacted by Eloi since, and I don't expect that I will be.

We may never know where Samuel Palmer Brooks hid his bust, but somehow the fact that he knew seems to make up for it.

## Brooks College Survival Tips



Megan  
Williams  
*Staff  
Writer*

**Bring blankets to "movie in the quad" night:** The grass in the quad has an incredibly prickly quality to it. Do not attempt to sit on it! You will end up with grass burns that are very difficult to ignore... and may interfere with your Harry Potter impersonations.

**Love on your CL:** You never know how cool your CL can be underneath all of the authority and strengths-finders tests that cloud their day-to-day appearance. Plus, who doesn't love having friends in high places?

**Don't give in to pressure:** At the start of my freshman year I didn't take the "Strengths Finder" test, and quite a few people hounded me about it. The thing is that I don't need a test to tell me what my strengths are...so I just wrote "Bein' Awesome" in sharpie really big on the sheet with

my name on it outside of my door. During premier weekends my room was included in the "what not to do" section of the tour. I don't regret that decision for a moment.

**Get out into the real world:** Real life isn't like Brooks. The rest of Baylor isn't like Brooks. Even though it is comfortable and easy to eat meals at Brooks, and to spend quality time with your computer screen in your room, there is a great big world out there!

**Buy earplugs:** Whether or not you have noticed it this year, the walls are paper-thin. I myself have had to be subjected to a case of the "bad neighbors." The young lady next door's alarm clock goes off every morning at 5:30, and again at 5:45, and again at 6, and once more at 6:15, and finally at 6:30. I can hear the blare of the television filtering through the walls at 4 in the morning, and some nights the TV doesn't turn off at all. It isn't all bad though...I do get to be privy to her telephone conversations...which at times can be quite entertaining.



PHOTO BY KATY MCDOWALL

**Romance in Robbins Chapel:** I know that in my last article I suggested that students use it as a locale for optimum proposal conditions, but I take it back! It is taken. Also, one member of this party informed me that I should make a retraction to my previous article; it is in fact the third pew from the FRONT that is off limits. So check yourselves.

**The cafeteria workers are magicians:** We have all seen it. One day we will have spaghetti. The next day we will have Mexican food. And by the third day we get Mexican pasta. It took God four days to separate night from day; it only took

three days for the creation of many an interesting dish. You almost expect Igor to come hobbling along in an apron bringing the concoction alive from a jolt of electricity... with meatballs for eyes and frijoles for fingers.

As I bid farewell to the hallowed halls of Brooks College I should get sentimental with my audience. Perhaps I should recite a few lines from Dr. Seuss' "Oh the Places You'll Go" or Washington's farewell address.

/-But I won't. Instead I will end with Philippians 4:13, which reads "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me." Go forth, be awesome!

Get to know your Community Leaders!

# CL Spotlight: Caroline Barta

FLOOR: 4K

YEAR: JUNIOR



**1. WHAT IS YOUR DEGREE/MAJOR/MINOR?** Double major in Great Texts and Classics, Honors Program.

**2. WHAT IS YOUR HOME-TOWN?** Katy, TX

**3. WHAT ACTIVITIES ARE YOU INVOLVED IN?** William Carey Crane Scholars, Reformed University Fellowship, anything and everything Brooks College, Eta Sigma Phi, assorted Honors Program clubs and activities, teaching K-1st Sunday School at my church, Redeemer Presbyterian

**4. WHAT ARE YOUR LIKES?** Concrete "likes"--- reading great books for fun—and not so "great" books that are just fun, having deep conversations with good friends, family and friends, drinking coffee, traveling, cooking / baking, cleaning my room, my vacuum, listening to music as much as possible, visiting libraries, editing papers, my day-planner, chasing academ-

ic research tangents, Frisbee, and snow-skiing.

**5. WHAT ARE YOUR DISLIKES?** Concrete "dislikes"--- a messy room, disorganization, being late, misunderstandings, writing first drafts, wasting time, boredom, and cliques. Abstract "dislikes"--- lack of integrity, disingenuousness, lack of character, apathy, shallowness, laziness, and injustice.

**6. WHAT ARE SOME FUN FACTS ABOUT YOU?** I love to snow ski—I've been doing it since I was 3, and I really like to ski the hardest runs I can manage—but only ski off cliffs occasionally! I was in braces for 6 ½ years, had 3 oral surgeries, and so after all that, that's why I really like smiling! I'm also genetically missing the tooth to the right of my left front tooth, so I have a titanium screw in my jaw and a crown on top. If you look in the Treat Night pictures from 2009, I'm dressed like a pirate, and I don't have that tooth in! I lived in Boston, Massachusetts for 15 months when I was 8 and 9. Scrabble is my favorite game.

**7. WHAT IS YOUR PURPOSE AS A CL?** It is my deepest desire that all the college members under my care find in Brooks a family

and home away from home, a place where important questions of vocation and calling are addressed, and most of all, mature and blossom in this place into individuals committed both to reaching their highest potential and to empowering those around them to reach this same transcendent goal.

**8. WHY DID YOU CHOOSE BROOKS?** After visiting Brooks College and the HRC as a high school senior, I chose Brooks College because it represents such a broad range of talents, personalities, and passions committed to an overarching goal of communal living, aimed together toward reaching the highest aspirations of the human existence. From my first encounter with some of the loveliest folks around here at Tuesday Tea, the welcoming warmth and obvious care for others that I saw in the people of Brooks really made the difference, and I knew Brooks was the place for me!

**9. WHAT ARE YOUR DREAMS AND AMBITIONS?** I'm hoping to enter a Ph.D pro-



photos courtesy of caroline barta

gram right after graduation, probably in Classical Literature or Philosophy. God willing, I really want to be a college professor actively engaging in the Christian intellectual conversation, but perhaps my greatest ambition has been and will always be to be a godly wife and mother. Most of all, I desire to glorify God in everything that I do. I'm waiting to see what that will all look like!

**10. WHAT IS ONE OF THE BEST PARTS OF THE CL EXPERIENCE?** For me, the opportunity to share life intentionally and deeply with thirty-six wonderful residents—as well as the other 330+ Brooks residents, is absolutely exhilarating. I love spending time with residents, comforting the despondent and broken, sharing in the joys and excitements, giving and receiving hugs, talking late into the night, advising, listening, learning, and, above all, living life well together.



SPECIAL EDITION

# Double feature: MaKenzie Hodge

FLOOR: 4D

YEAR: JUNIOR



**1. WHAT IS YOUR DEGREE/MAJOR/MINOR?** Biology Major; Chemistry/History Minor; Premedicine

**2. WHAT IS YOUR HOME-TOWN?** Longview, TX

**3. WHAT ACTIVITIES ARE YOU INVOLVED IN?** CL&L, NAACP; Multicultural Leadership Cabinet, STEPS Mentor, Carver Park Baptist Church College Ministry

**4. WHAT ARE YOUR LIKES?**

I like/love happy people, seeing God in different things (both in my life and the lives of others) laughing (like legit, side-splitting laughing) most chocolate, family time, caring friends, intimate conversation, learning about people/myself

**5. WHAT ARE YOUR DISLIKES?** Rain/humidity, being lost, rude/mean people

**6. WHAT ARE SOME FUN FACTS ABOUT YOU?**

I am the oldest of three, but will probably be the shortest of three (my brother's 4, but he'll grow); I love history and actually entertained the idea of being a history professor.



**7. WHAT IS YOUR PURPOSE AS A CL?**

One of the biggest reasons that I wanted to be a CL is that I love caring for people. I am definitely not one to sugar-coat things and I make sure to tell you the truth, but it is my heart's desire for people to know just how wonderful they are. I love people knowing that someone cares about them and wants to be a part of their lives. In my opinion, people would be more positive and think more highly of themselves if they knew someone cared about them. I also love watching people mature and grow (Developer is one of my strengths) being in a position to watch that and potentially aid in that process is special to me. My main mission is to share the love and support that I receive from Christ with everyone and live my life so that God can be seen.

**8. WHY DID YOU CHOOSE BROOKS?**

I actually lived in Brooks freshmen year and I really wanted to come back and experience the community on a deeper level.

**9. WHAT ARE YOUR DREAMS AND AMBITIONS?**

I am pressing toward my dream of becoming a doctor. After I've had some experience in the field, I really want to come back to college or medical school and teach.

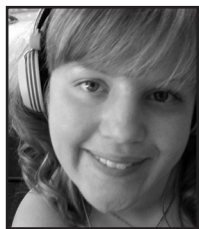
**10. WHAT IS ONE OF THE BEST PARTS OF THE CL EXPERIENCE?**

I LOVE working the front desk! You get to meet so many people believe it or not, so great friendships can come from the front desk.



photos courtesy of makenzie hodge

# Colbie Caillat performs at Diadeloso



Megan  
Fitzgerald  
*Staff  
Writer*

Before I went to see the Colbie Caillat concert, I knew I was supposed to write this article for the Torch.

However, I had no clue what exciting thing was about to happen to me there. One of my friends is a really big fan of Col-

bie Caillat, so we got to the concert almost two hours early to get spots right against the stage.

I've never seen a concert that close before - and just that made me so excited to begin with. The band playing before Colbie Caillat was called SPEAK, and they were really good.

After that, everyone was so excited to see Colbie Caillat...and then finally, she took the stage! I've never seen a celebrity that close up before, and

her voice sounded just like on her CDs.

Then, the exciting part happened. I know some people wouldn't be excited about touching the hand of a celebrity, but when Colbie Caillat walked over to where I was standing and waved her hand in the audience...I pushed my roommate out of the way (it really was a total accident!) and stretched my arm up as far as it would go.

The next thing I know, I'm jumping up and

down because I touched Colbie Caillat's hand (not once, not twice, but three times)!! I was so happy after that and my friends made fun of me for the rest of the concert, but I was too excited to even notice ;D

Eventually my roommate did get to touch her hand too, which is good, because she does wake up to the song "Bubbly" every morning!

Now, Diadeloso is one of my favorite Baylor memories =)

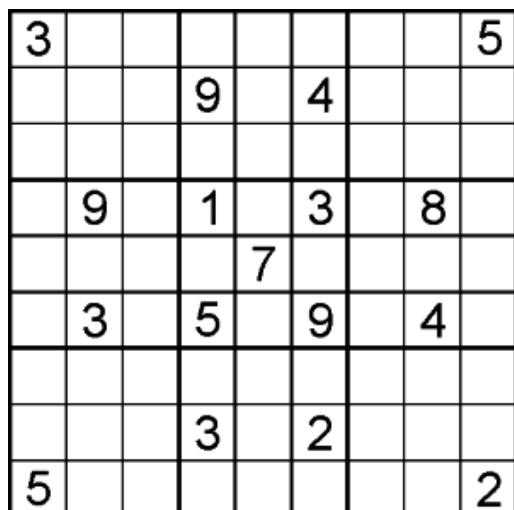
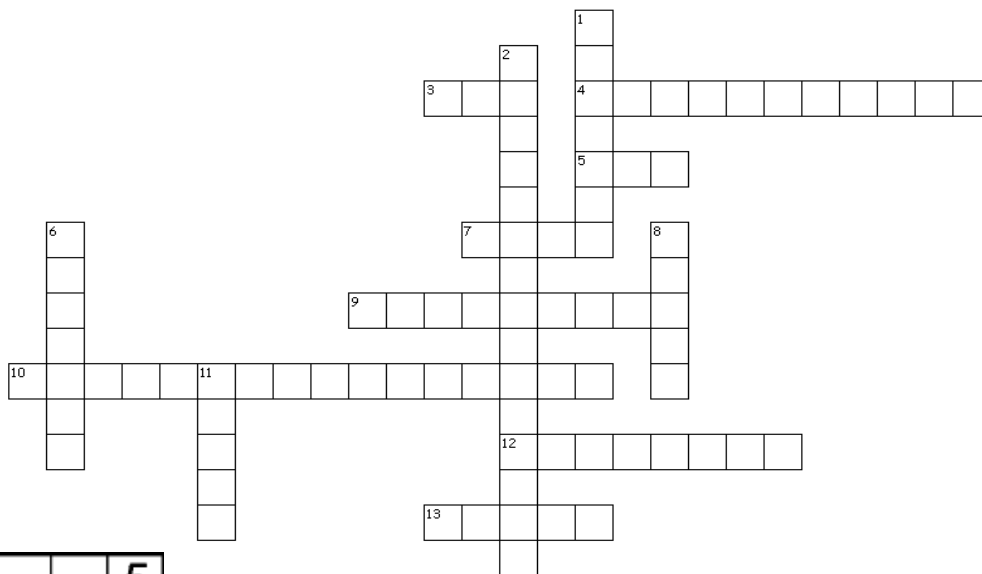
## TORCH CROSSWORD LOL

Across

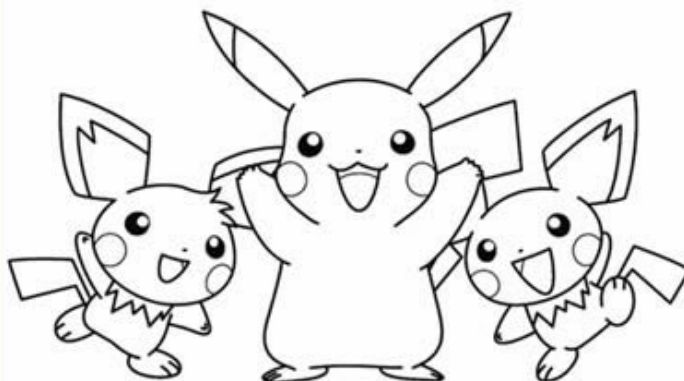
3. Room where people play pool, watch tv
4. Battle of the four flames
5. works the front desk on weekdays
7. Editor
9. Harry Potter
10. Event with brooks olympics, tree planting
12. newsletter
13. Faculty Master

Down

1. Books
2. Better than studying
6. Planned May Ball
8. Hall Director
11. The Torch's nickname for SPB



# Fun page!



**color me!**



# Twelve Ways to Annoy Your Roommate



Shannon  
Moore  
*Staff  
Writer*

**\*Editors Note: The Torch, in NO way, recommends committing any of the following offenses against your roommate. We do, however, recommend reading through a humorous list of things that you, as a fine Brooks resident would never ever do or even consider doing to annoy one of your fellow residents.\***

We here at the Torch headquarters have compiled a nice list of things that you can do to bug that roommate of yours this year or even

next year. We've sifted through many ideas for the ones that can work the fastest since we only have a little more than a week left. Have fun with these!

1. Leave the window open with the blinds down (Although this may have its drawbacks in the middle of those Texas summers and winters).

2. Unplug everything they plug in. When they plug it back in, unplug it the next time they leave.

3. Eat EXACTLY half of all of their food. If they have cookies or chips, eat half of each cookie or chip.

4. Always mispronounce their last name. Especially funny if it's something simple like Smith.

5. Take off your shoes in the middle of the room and leave them there. Wait until they pile up, and if your roommate moves them, move them back.

6. Singing. All the time. Badly. It's better if you have to try to sing badly, because if you just sing badly all the time then they're probably already annoyed. But if you bring this one out of left field it should get really old, really fast.

7. Twilight posters. Enough said.

8. Post-it note their side of the room. This might require some planning, you'll have to get them out of the room long enough to get enough post-its everywhere. You might want to focus on

just one piece of furniture. You'll also need LOTS of post-its.

9. If you have a T.V. put the remote in the most awkward spots possible. Leave it in the bathroom, in their sock drawer, or under their mattress.

10. Write notes on the dry erase board from other people to them.

11. Set your alarm for 3AM every day and when you turn it off pretend to not know how the alarm got set for that time or say something like "It says it's only going to go off at eight!"

12. Start telling them about your day but then stop halfway through a thought and say "Did my phone just ring?" and check to see if it did. Do this every few minutes.

## Fine Arts **Forecast**



Anson  
Jablonski  
*Staff  
Writer*

Another school year ends... can you believe it?

If you've got a mind to sit and reflect on the year past, like I do, then open up your iTunes and check-in to my shared library. It's called "Anson's HAWT Music !!!!!" ... So you can't miss it.

Inside, you will find a special playlist called "09-10 Farewell" — a musical tribute to the past year. It's a mix of the best moments of the year and

some of my best chill / meditative music. Enjoy!

People also tell me that my iTunes also has lots of good study music, so in honor of finals, I'll be leaving it open as close to 24/7 as possible until I move out. My specialties are orchestral / classical music, movie soundtracks, and video game soundtracks. (Did you cry at the end of Ocarina of Time? NO? You're missing out. Relive the moment via my iTunes.) If you like the music, join the Facebook group!

Good luck with finals, and have a good, fun, and safe summer!!

Unless otherwise noted, all events listed here are

at 7:30 pm in Jones Concert Hall (in the McCrary Music Building) and totally free of charge.

### Wind Ensemble

**Friday, April 30.**

Featuring guest conductor Allan McMurray from the University of Colorado-Boulder.

### Concert Band

**Sunday, May 2 at 3:00 pm in Jones Hall.**

### Chamber Singers

A pair of concerts: Saturday, May 1 at 7:30 pm in

the Foyer of Meditation in the Armstrong Brownning Library, and Sunday, May 2 at 4:30 pm in the Truett Seminary Chapel. Both are free, and should be pretty tight.

### Baylor Theatre: Enchanted April

**Shows in the Hooper-Schaefer Fine Arts Center** runs today through Saturday, May 1 at 7:30 pm, plus one show on Sunday, May 2 at 2:00 pm.

See [www.baylor.edu/theatre] for ticket information.





# HANDING OUT THE TORCH SINCE FALL 2007

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