



Brooks Quad Undergoes Renovations



photo by nathan fischer



Katy
McDowall
Editor

The Brooks College quad recently underwent landscaping renovations.

The renovations, which began Monday, Oct. 4, resulted in a gravel path that extends around the building sides of the quad. The path is lined with potted cherry laurels, low-growing shrubs, flowering perennials and benches.

"Have you ever walked through the archway into the college, paused at the corner of the quad, looked across its patchy grass and up the stark wall of concrete and brick on the far side, and wondered whether something better, indeed something even beautiful, might be possible in that place?" Faculty Master Dr. Douglas Henry said in an e-mail to the College.

The new design will offer both beauty and functionality, as the new plants and benches appeal to the eye, and the open area still allows for outdoor activities.

Fall Break: The CU-Boulder Game



Sally Ann
Moyer
*Staff
Writer*

"R-G-THREE! R-G-THREE!" The crowd of mostly alumni chanted at the close of the CU-Boulder football game as Baylor quarterback, Robert Griffin III, came off the field after Baylor's 31-25 win.

A few others wistfully yearned for BUGWMB. "Where's the band? We need someone to play 'That Good Ole Baylor Line,'"

they said.

My dad and I joined in the cheers and left the stadium with smiles on our faces.

"That's one of the best games I've ever seen," he told me.

The game had literally come down to the last 5 seconds. CU was poised to score a touchdown but the pass was incomplete just as the clock ran out. Baylor fans breathed a sigh of relief and erupted in cheers.

Baylor had really come back strong after the half. Perhaps the team was riled up by how Colorado came

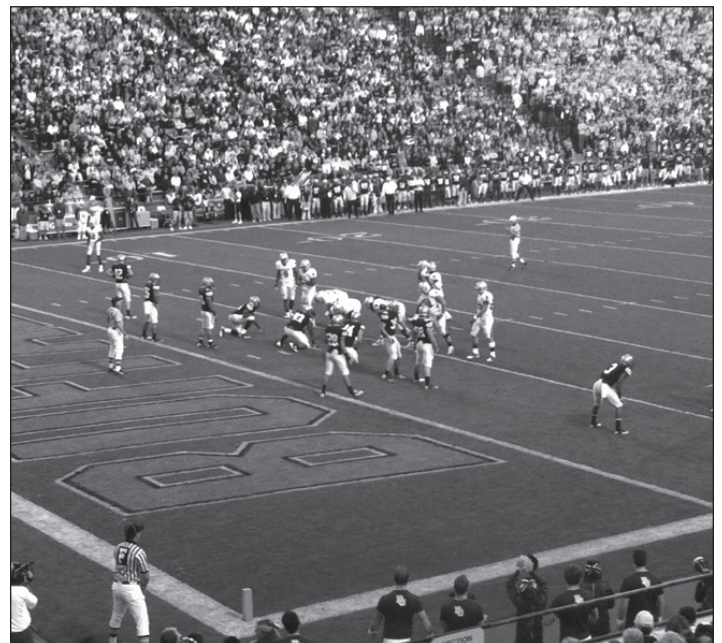


photo by sally ann moyer

SEE CU, PAGE 3

UPCOMING events

Fright Night OCT. 28-30
Football @ Texas OCT. 30
Halloween OCT. 31
Football @ Oklahoma State Nov. 6
Football vs. Texas A&M Nov. 13
Acoustic Cafe Nov. 18
Football vs. Oklahoma Nov. 20
Thanksgiving Break Nov. 24-28
Torch Deadline Nov. 23 ★
Christmas on 5th Street DEC. 2
New issue of The Torch DEC. 3
Last Day of Class DEC. 3



TORCHnews

There's one issue of The Torch left this semester.
Don't miss out on your chance to contribute!

EDITOR'S note



Katy
McDowall
Editor

Hey everyone! Happy Halloween!

Fall has always been my favorite time of year. It's a mixture of the cooler weather (which I know has disappeared on us these past couple of weeks), the falling leaves and the holidays that come along with it. Halloween and Thanksgiving have to be my top two holidays. My answer to that, however, may change around Christmas time.

Halloween is special because it's a time for candy and costumes, and, of course, events like Treat Night, which Brooks always excels at. Thanksgiving, though, may top Halloween this year. Those few days off from school and work will be cherished more than ever this semester. I suppose I'll enjoy seeing my family too. ;)

This issue was a tough one to put together. There was so much content to work with. So many events have happened recently and so many are coming up, and, more than that, there are so many stories to be told. Even though I write every day (news releases at work), the effort that many of our Torch contributors put into their work and the results they come out with top everything.

I would like to give a huge thanks to everyone that helps me with The Torch! Without you guys this would be no fun at all, these pages would be very empty and our Torch meetings would be really, really sad. Wear your new Torch shirts proudly! You guys are the best!

TORCHSTAFF

| handing out the torch since fall 2007 |

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Governing Board Update



Emilie
Moore
President

Hello from the Governing Board! Here's what we've been talking about lately...

Not surprisingly, so many of y'all have great ideas, even if you're not involved in a committee or on the Governing Board. We have been discussing how to support groups that want to start but aren't themselves a committee. Some examples of this include our very own Torch newsletter, the Brooks prayer team, and most recently, the Prexian Theatre Company.

If you have a passion for something, you can make it happen in this community! All it takes is some initiative

and good communication. We want to get behind you, to see you succeed. If you have an idea, talk to us about it! Do it.

Meet your Brooks Officers!



President Emilie Moore



**Vice President
Jennifer Tran**



Treasurer Chase Kanaly

CU, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

back onto the field, behind a bison named Ralphie, the official live mascot of University of Colorado.

Ralphie charged onto the field at full speed with three rodeo guys flanking her on each side. They ran her straight into a trailer and slammed the door immediately. It was a little bit terrifying.

While it was an exciting game overall, the second half really made the game worth it. Baylor started off the half with success at a two-point conversion, leaping the score from 10-15 to 18-15.

The sun had also gone down after the second half and the concessions had switched from lemonade to hot chocolate.

It was refreshing to actually be cold at a football game.

The fun of the game also included some humorous moments.

During the first quarter, CU played a self-promotional commercial. I'm not sure what else it boasted, but one claim in particular made the Baylor fans giggle.

The announcer proclaimed something akin to, "With an elevation one mile higher, no wonder many of our students become astronauts."

Also, the referees who had previously not been calling in Baylor's favor finally made us happy.

The referee walked out to the field and began announcing the decision.

"The call," he said, and then his microphone failed or he stopped speaking.

Baylor and Colorado fans alike held

their breath as he walked off and deliberated again.

He returned. "The call stands."

Baylor fans had a little bit of fun mocking his stutter, as if he had been reluctant to say something so favorable to Baylor.

Getting to the game had been something of an ordeal.

After missing the \$9 roundtrip Buffride bus to Boulder from the RTD station outside our apartment, my dad and I resigned ourselves to navigating the car trip up to Boulder from Denver.

We were fearful of getting caught in traffic and then having to pay \$20 to park at the stadium; as late as we left, there might not even be any remaining parking.

It was already only an hour before kick off and I received a warning text message from my mom.

"54 minutes with traffic to folsom stadium," she said. Fortunately, the trip ended up taking less than a half hour.

On my phone, I located a Park-n-Ride in Boulder where we could get a \$4 roundtrip bus ride to the stadium. We did have to pay to park because our license plate was out of district, but it was only \$4—cheaper than parking at the stadium itself and even cheaper than if we had originally caught the Buffride.

I was excited for the game, but not enough of a diehard fan to expect an automatic win. Colorado had beaten Georgia the previous weekend and that made me frightened for how Baylor would fare.

On the bus ride over, though, a CU

fan told us that he had heard Baylor was favored by one point; my excitement increased.

We entered the on-campus stadium—I have to admit, I was jealous—and suddenly found ourselves amidst a numerous crowd of Buff fans. They had an impressive stadium crowd with a student section all in gold, somewhat akin the Baylor line. Their fan turn out was obviously helped by the fact that it was their family weekend.

Folsom Stadium is actually very pretty and has a lot of flagstone. It's a good thing, too, because my dad and I got the full tour: we had walked all the way down the wrong length of the stadium. Then, we had to go around the other way and through the field house; the visitor's section was tucked away on the far left.

After navigating the maze of the stadium, I felt a little more like we were back in Waco because we did have a considerable crowd of Baylor fans. I would rather be in not as great seats and surrounded by all Baylor fans than on the 50-yard line in a sea of Colorado fans. At least we weren't on the end zone.

Besides the new experience of and out-of-state away game, the crowd was also different from the student section where I'm used to spending games. There was a lot more white hair, but also a lot more sitting down. I actually got asked to sit down during the third quarter.

Thankfully, even the older fans mustered enough energy to stand at the most exciting parts and pretty much all of the fourth quarter.

With All You Are



Amanda
Beck
*Contributing
Writer*

I recently heard about a conversation about what it really means to be a Christian scholar.

One party in the discussion, a man of great education and great influence at our beloved university (I'll call him Mr. A), said that Christians called into academia should not spend their time in soup kitchens or serving the poor but should be researching 60 hours a week in order to keep up with secular scholars.

The other party of the conversation vehemently disagreed, after having recently found great fulfillment in her life through service, even though she's a very busy graduate student. I'll call her Ms. B.

This is a conversation that my husband and I are very interested in, seeing that we have made our living in the university. We have gone to school for countless years in the university. We are now employees of the university. We even make our home at the university. (And we love it!) At a glance, it seems that all of our life is dedicated to the university. And, for the most part, it is. But in our soul-searching moments, we have wrestled (and continue to wrestle) with the question, "What exactly does it mean to be a scholar and a Christian?"

In the conversation previously mentioned, Mr. A asserted Christian scholars must be excellent precisely in order to reach out to their secular counterparts. The better your scholarship, the more another scholar will respect you. The less crazy he will think you are when you bring up the life-transforming power of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. The more likely he is to see that rational and intelligent people can follow Jesus

without checking their brains at the door of the church. I can understand this point of view. It is rather en vogue in our culture right now—becoming all things to all men, in a way. I see it in the Cowboy church, the biker church, the skateboarder church, the cool people church—the list goes on and on. I have been so tempted to live my life this way, pouring myself into my work and not participating in the community I live in (which for the past 8+ years has been Waco).

But something inside of me has been stirred each time I've leaned toward this way of living. The Holy Spirit has reminded me of what He actually has for me, not the plans of greatness I have for myself. And thus, I continue to wrestle like Jacob with the angel—What does it mean to be a Christian scholar?

Have you ever struggled with that question? If so, join me on an intellectual exercise to see if we can get closer to an answer together.

First, we must ask ourselves, what is our primary calling as Christian scholars? The answer for every Christian is one calling with two folds: we are first and foremost called to love the Lord with all that we are. In the Bible, Jesus is clear about our calling: love God with all your heart, mind, soul and strength. It is supposed to be an obsession to walk with God [see Deuteronomy 6:4-9]. Getting this first part of our calling will take our whole lives. We are all on this journey. We also, however, need to create room for the second part of the calling: loving our neighbor as ourselves. Scholars loving their neighbors. What a thought!

So what does it mean to love our neighbor? Should it be, as Mr. A claimed, not in serving in a soup kitchen but in spending most of our time in the library or in the laboratory? It is true that we are called to excellence. Regretfully, the call to excellence in academics has been overlooked by many Christian schools in higher education.

This being true, I would still argue with Ms. B against Mr. A—this is not how we love our neighbors.

We, as undergraduates, graduate students, and faculty must maintain the balance of the first and second commandments with our own professional callings. We must be found in soup kitchens. We must participate in food drives and caring for children in afterschool programs. We cannot isolate ourselves from the real world! Being a Christian scholar does not mean that you do a lot of research and do it well and are accidentally a Christian with a message of hope and life to share. It means that your worldview completely saturates your life—that you love God and your neighbor with all that you do, especially in how you spend your time. And this means loving your neighbor as you would love yourself. I have to remind myself of this question: How would I want to be treated? That is what we call the "golden rule"—treat others as you want to be treated.

So the question now is this: Who is the Christian scholar's neighbor?

Our friends, our spouses, our children, the family next door, our students, our professors, the homeless woman on the street, the lady who does a great job cleaning the floors, and the list could go on and on. I like the way the translator of the Spanish version of the Bible (Nueva Versión Internacional) put it: "Ama a tu prójimo como a ti mismo" (Matt 22:39). The word 'prójimo' is connected to the English word "approximate"—near. The person near you. The person in front of you. That is your neighbor, scholar or not.

Why does all this matter? In many circles in which people are passionate about following Jesus, the calling of a being a Christian scholar is neglected and even looked down upon. I think this happens precisely because we haven't been able to see the value of Christian scholarship rightly balanced.



Kyndall
Renfro
Chaplain

It was a Thursday night, November 8, 2007, and I was sitting at Taco Cabana when I got the phone call. Andrew had been in an accident—his skull was fractured, his brain was swelling, and he was in a coma, unresponsive.

Andrew was 19 years-old. He was dating my sister, and he was the best friend of my boyfriend (soon-to-be-husband).

Two weeks later, Andrew passed away.

It's hard to believe it's been almost three years now. I suppose it sounds morbid, but I've done a lot of thinking since then about the relationship between death and the church.

For example, while at a monastery this summer, I noticed pictures hanging in the hallway—each monk from the monastery who had passed away.

There was a candle hanging by the pictures, and on the anniversary of each monk's death, the monks lit the candle in honor of him. Besides that one example, I noticed that monks do a lot of remembering the dead. They light a lot of candles, they say a lot of prayers, they show a lot of honor—all on behalf of those who died.

By way of contrast, in the church I grew up in, the church gave funerals, but after that, remembering the dead was up to the individual. Sure, some church members might help you through the grieving process, and they might send you a card on the anniversary of the death of your loved one. But the institution of the church did nothing formal to honor those who have died.

The first time I ever attended a church that observed All Saints Day, it was the Sunday before Andrew's accident. After Andrew died, I began to realize the importance of church practices that help us honor and remember those saints who have affected our lives.

It might sound nice in theory, but many of us know from experience that to say, "He's in a better place," and then to move on with our lives just doesn't cut it. Yes, we affirm that God is with the deceased and the deceased are with God. But we also affirm that the earth God created is good (as God declares in Genesis) and thus the lives and relationships of this earth are good and important and deserve to be re-

membered. That's what the observance of All Saints Day (November 1st—not to be confused with Halloween or Halloween's Eve) is about. We celebrate the heritage of those faithful Christian who transmitted the faith to us.

It does something to your soul to speak their names out loud, to light a candle in their honor, to remember their legacy, and to reflect on the ways in which their life and death has changed yours. It does something to your soul when the church gives formal recognition to your remembrance and reflection. If any group of people should be able to value those who have gone before us, shouldn't it be the church? The doctrine of resurrection surely does not encourage us to forget their earthly lives, but to affirm that their life continues with lasting significance, made possible in Jesus Christ. The communion of saints extends backwards to include all who came before us, and All Saints Day is one way by which we remember their story.

This coming November, I remember Andrew Charles Brooks, born November 4, 1988, died November 24, 2007. He lived a life committed to serving Jesus, enjoying life, and loving people. In particular, he loved his family, he loved his friends, like Nate, and he loved my sister—the girl he planned to marry.

Who do you remember this All Saints Day?

YOU, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

If a Christian who is called to be a scholar only devotes his heart and time to being excellent, he will not be able to do what the Lord asks of him (see Micah 6:8). His focus is not on God but on himself. What church would want to promote a calling that encourages one to be self-serving and focused? But if passionate lovers of Jesus can see what a Christian scholar is truly called to be—an intellectual who walks completely in step and in love with Jesus (justly, mercifully, and humbly), all the while loving her neighbor as herself. When we see this example of a Christian scholar, then I believe the mindset on being called as such would shift

drastically.

We NEED excellent Christian scholars. But more than that, we need Christian scholars who are radically committed to the first and second commandment—loving the Lord our God with all that we are and loving our neighbor—the person in front of us—as we love ourselves. As we focus on God and give ourselves to His commandments, we will prosper in His kingdom and more than likely in our own scholastic fields.

To the Christian scholar who is trying to work this out and actually live it, a few words of advice that my husband and I have found useful: be in community, not only with scholars but with 'ordinary' people. We weren't made to

do this on our own. Look for a teacher or a mentor who has a better balance in this than you do and learn from them. Talk with other Christians, in all stages of life, who also are called to be scholars. And above all, spend time with Jesus every day—in Him alone is the fullness of knowledge.

Remember what they said about Daniel and his friends when they chose to serve God instead of follow the rules of man:

"In every matter of wisdom and understanding about which the king questioned them, he found them ten times better than all the magicians and enchanters in his whole kingdom."

Daniel 1:20 (NIV)

Brooks Blaze 2010

photos by emilie moore



BIKERS vs. PEDESTRIANS



Nosse **VS.** Jennifer
Oviembada Tran

There are two types of transportation that we commonly see at Baylor, biking & walking. Unfortunately, these two modes of transportation always seem to have conflicts within each other. Bikers are always running over pedestrians and pedestrians are always walking in the way, how can we solve this problem? Who is right?

As a social experiment, Nosse and Jennifer took on both sides of this issue for a week. Below is the follow-up interview of their experiences.

So how was your experience as a biker/pedestrian?

Nosse: I don't understand why bikers can't just stay on

the streets...There's no place for bikes on the sidewalks.

Jennifer: That makes sense... but, it makes even more sense for pedestrians to not walk on the streets while bikers are obviously rushing through to class. You can cross the street and make eye contact or something... or simply look! Don't just cross the street like you own it. You do NOT own the Baylor streets.

What was your worst experience?

Jennifer: I was riding my bike on a gloomy day after a wet, rainy weekend when ALL THE SUDDEN this kid just randomly steps onto the streets...Needless to say, I ran over him. He fell into a puddle of mud and I... well, I was okay. But, I felt HORRIBLE. But then again, it wasn't my fault. Please, walk in a straight line.

Nosse: One morning as I was walking to Chemistry, I was on the sidewalk and I noticed a biker approaching me - FAST. He was coming on my side of the sidewalk,

so I moved to the right side ...as I moved to the RIGHT side of the sidewalk, he moved to the right side also! Then when I moved to the left, he moved again! He then proceeded to run over my foot. WITHOUT STOPPING. *anger initiated*

What's one thing the other person can do to change the situation?

Nosse: I think there should be designated areas...biking paths for students. It decreases risks and makes things easier for everybody.

Jennifer: I think there should be designated areas...walking paths...for everyone. It decreases the risks and makes things easier...oh wait, that's called a sidewalk.

How can this issue be resolved?

Jennifer: People should learn how to walk in a straight line.

Nosse: All bikes should be destroyed by ways of fire.

After going through this

experiment, do you prefer walking or biking?

Nosse: I prefer walking and enjoying the Baylor scenery.

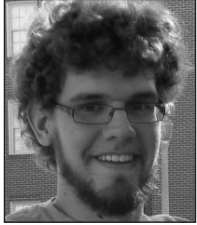
Jennifer: I enjoy both! I'm very nervous about riding a bike nowadays, having ran over someone, but, it's all good. I mean, I'd rather crash into someone on my bike than have them crash into me on theirs...Safety first.

Who is at fault?

Jennifer: Everyone. Pedestrians: Please, walk in a straight line. Don't be stupid. Don't cross the street without looking. Bikers: Ride your bike, carefully. I understand you're in a hurry but relax... seriously. Annnd don't run over Nosse.

Nosse: I agree, both. We should both be considerate of each other. I understand everybody is stressed getting to class in the morning but the welfare of others should come first. Pedestrians should get their headphones out of their ears and bikers should watch where they're going.

FINE ARTS forecast



Anson
Jablinski
*Staff
Writer*

This is the penultimate Forecast of my penultimate semester at Baylor, and I hope you're having a penultimate time enjoying the cool weather! ... Okay, one of those didn't make sense.

Don't forget!! Write me if you have an upcoming event you want to see listed in the Forecast! 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.

A Cappella Choir

Friday, October 29. If you've never heard Baylor's A Cappella Choir, you need to. GO.

Women's Choir

Saturday, October 30.

Waco Symphony Orchestra

Presents "Cirque de la Symphonie", Tuesday, November 2 at 7:30 p.m. in Waco Hall. Complete with aerial fliers, acrobats, jugglers, and who knows what else, the concert continues the WSO's recent trend of hosting unusual events (such as the laser light show a few months ago). If you're into Cirque de Soleil, check this out, but there are no student ticket prices, and it's more of a show than a concert.

Concert Jazz Ensemble

Thursday, November 4.

Zoo Tunes! with the Baylor Symphony Orchestra

Sunday, November 7 in the early afternoon. Should you be chillin' like a chimp in the Cameron Park Zoo, you'll get to hear a series of mini-concerts by several local ensembles, including the Baylor Symphony "ROARchestra" and Baylor ShowTime! (Mainly for kids.)

Women's Choir and Men's Choir

Tuesday, November 9.

Baylor Theatre

Presents "Almost, Maine", showing Tuesday through Sunday, November 9-14. Brooks College will be taking a group, so watch your email for that! See [www.baylor.edu/theatre] for showtimes and ticket information.

Baylor Symphony Orchestra

Thursday, November 11. Presenting a different program... and minus the animals.

Early Music Ensemble

Thursday, November 18 at 5:30 p.m. in the Armstrong-Browning Library.

Baylor Jazz Ensemble

Thursday, November 18 at 7:30 p.m. in Jones Hall (McCrary Music Building).

Campus Orchestra

Friday, November 19.

Symphonic Band and Wind Ensemble

Monday, November 22. Double the band; double the fun. Never give up! Trust your instincts!

Baylor Bronze

Thursday, December 2 at 6:00 p.m. in Roxy Grove Hall (inside

Waco Hall, to the right). Maybe your church has a handbell choir, and maybe they don't. In either case, you ain't never heard handbells like this. Seriously. It's awesome.

Campus Orchestra

Thursday, December 2 at 7:30 p.m. in Jones Hall (McCrary Music Building).

Baylor Christmas Concerts

Coming up: Friday and Saturday, December 3 and 4. My favorite concert event of the year — always a blast, always jolly. Grab your tickets soon; they go fast! Brooks College will be providing a limited number of tickets, so stay tuned for an email!

Chamber Singers Christmas Concerts

Coming up: Sunday through Tuesday, December 5-7. Another super-popular Christmas event! Call 254-710-3571 for ticket information!

Martin Museum of Art

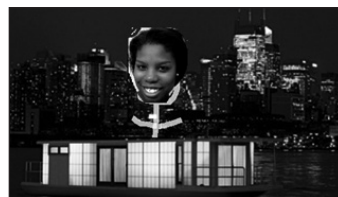
On display now through November 13: Makoto Fujimura (contemporary painter) and Dornith Doherty (contemporary photography). See [www.baylor.edu/martinnmuseum].

5 things I WISH I HAD



Nosse
Ovienmhada
*Staff
Writer*

1. A boat house : \$250,000



This 48-foot-by-12 foot floating palace is basically a floating apartment.

2. The Japanese Snuggie: \$60



This thing is amazing, it's like a cocoon. A walking sleeping bag, who wouldn't want one??

3. Zi Chi the panda: \$2 million



Enough said. Look at the picture.

4. Jet Pack Price: \$86,000



Who needs a bike when you can fly to class?

5. Anderson Cooper: Price??



Apparently there is some kind of law prohibiting me from buying people. Oh well, he is on the list.

COMMUNITY LEADER

spotlight

Emanuel
Gawrieh

FLOOR: 1

YEAR: SENIOR



1. What is your degree/major/minor?

Philosophy major, Political Science minor

2. What is your hometown?

White Oak, TX

3. What activities are you involved in?

The Pulse, CL&L Student Advisory Board, Judicial Affairs Student Advisory Board

4. Why did you choose Baylor?

The opportunity to live in Brooks Residential College. The leadership opportunities that it offered to first year students and its focus on the significance of community made Brooks College and Baylor the only place that I could see myself as an undergraduate.

5. What is your favorite movie and why?

V for Vendetta. I believe that the film offers a great message about the importance of ideas and how they, in conjunction with relentless action, can truly alter our world.

6. Where do you see yourself in ten years?

I've been working on predicting the future for quite some time now.. So far, no dice. I'll get back to you.

7. Why are you a CL?

To me, the opportunity to grow close to a great group of guys and forge meaningful relationships with each of them is second to none. I sincerely enjoy spending time with the people of Brooks College, and being a CL allows me to not only spend time with the members of Brooks, but also to form worthwhile friendships that will undoubtedly last longer than my undergraduate career.

8. What is your favorite childhood memory?

When I was a child, my father would take me to classic car shows. I enjoyed this more than anything because it fostered a common bond between me and my father that still remains to this day.

9. What is the best class you have taken at Baylor & why?

Modern European Philosophy with Dr. Todd Buras. This course allowed me to understand the value of critical thinking and the necessity of understanding multiple different points of view on complex issues and their potential solutions.

10. What is your favorite thing about Brooks?

The ability to take part in such a close knit community of like-minded individuals.

Treat Night 2010

photos by nathan fischer



Objects in Mirror Are Closer Than They Appear

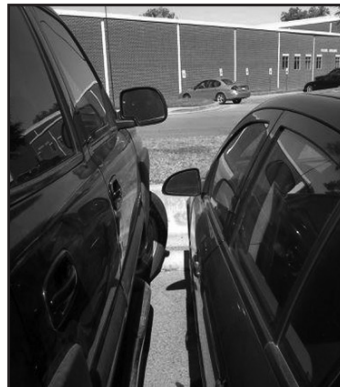


Jennifer
Tran

Staff
Writer

We've all had our experiences with bad drivers. In addition to that, we've had our experiences with Baylor's horrible parking situation. Combine those two and you have a pretty big dilemma. It was last month when this photograph was taken, but I assure you that there have been multiple occurrences of this situation for many other students.

The background story: I was leaving an appointment or something and arrived to this scene of the crime. This Black SUV thought it was okay to park himself completely over the line and in my space. Now, I realize that my car, Ruby, is a beautiful mysterious piece of metal,



but this was hardly necessary! He was so close I could barely walk through to open the door. I had the idea that I was flexible enough to sliver my way through a slightly opened door. "I can make it, no big deal." Mission failed. Of course, I did what you'd think I'd do: I keyed his car.

JUST KIDDING. I entered through the passenger side and climbed onto the driver's seat and drove off.

I wasn't mad or anything. I was merely frustrated. I don't have road rage. In fact, I actually hate people that

have road rage...it's so unnecessary and by the time you're done shouting at the other car, they're long gone and having a good ol' day! But, I WILL admit that I did twitch a little at this sight. It's one thing to cut me off on the highway, that's okay. It's another thing to obnoxiously take up two spaces when there's already a lack of parking spots on the campus. That's a little uncalled for.

I'm optimistic so I won't blame this driver as if he purposely parked his car like that. In fact, I'm pretty glad that I had the space to begin with! I'm simply going to blame the system. The system of drivers' ed. I don't know if so-and-so learned how to drive from his parents or from a legitimate class but this kind of parking is unacceptable.

It bothers me when people are parking and say, "I really suck at parking."

Because that automatically made me categorize them with this type of "bad parking"...I can't even imagine these kiddos trying to parallel park... D:

If you find yourself parking without looking around to see if you parked correctly, then please check. If you find yourself trying to fit into a small space because the loser parked over the line limiting your room to park, then do so safely, I'd hate to see you hit your car.

All in all, I just don't want YOU to face a situation like this or have to deal with a keyed-up car because YOU parked like this. So please be wary of this serious situation. If you need help learning how to park then SEEK it! If you need free lessons because you're cheap, then look for friends! I honestly feel like if you know you're horrible at parking then you should make an effort to improve.

Getting in the “Halloween Spirit”



Matthew
Carrington
*Staff
Writer*

If you aren’t too busy preparing for an upcoming “test week” (and tests always manage to fall in clusters, don’t they?), if you’ve decided to abandon childish things, or if you’re simply unaware, Halloween is this Sunday! Hopefully you don’t plan on participating in the festivities of this eerie holiday by dressing up and knocking on strangers’ doors for candy (since I’m almost positive you’d get arrested), but I do hope that you will take some time to reminisce about your childhood romps through your neighborhood—and maybe even indulge in some candy corn.

As Halloween draws nearer and nearer, I can’t help but remember some of the costumes I’ve worn throughout the years, some of which I can hardly believe I attempted. In true Halloween spirit, I thought I would share some of my costume highlights of Halloweens past.

When I was one year old, my parents took me trick-or-treating on my first Halloween adventure. First they told me that I’d get lots and lots of candy. All I had to do was knock on people’s doors, say a little rhyme, and voila: free candy. Not only would I get free candy, but my parents told me that I would get to dress up as anything I wanted. Are you kidding me? But who would I choose? A puppet from Sesame Street? An animal? Better yet, how about Barney? That was the ticket. Little did I know, however, that my parents substituted a dinosaur costume in place of Barney because all of the Barney costumes were sold out. At the end of the day, the only two things that mattered to me were candy and a costume that was purple and green.

The next year I tapped into my wild side and dressed up as an Indian, head-dress and all. I’m sure you can imagine

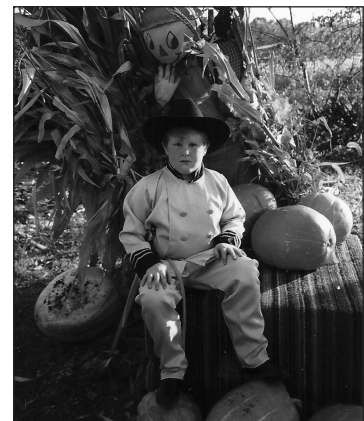
how much my parents loved the incessant “um, um, um-ing” noises I made all day long in preparation for the big night. Everyone whose door I knocked on had no other option but to be utterly impressed.

When I was about five, I truly became the costume. As you can see in the picture, I dressed as a Confederate soldier (by the way, I lived in Ohio for the first eleven years of my life), mirroring the habits of that era in American history by not smiling—not even a trace of a smirk. You might think that some of those Yankees in Ohio had some issues giving a rebel candy; however, the independent mindset we have here in Texas didn’t really exist to the same extent up there. Needless to say, I had another successful Halloween.

Over the next few years, I dressed up as the Blue Power Ranger, sporting the triceratops insignia and a full face mask, as Zoro, with moustache, mask, cape, and the works, and (my personal favorite) Darth Vader, donning the universally feared face mask, vest, and red lightsaber (not in the picture). I have to say that the jack-o-lantern trick or treat bucket detracts rather more than I intended from the ominous appearance of the Dark Lord. Nonetheless, I was Darth Vader at least three years in a row, although I probably used a different bucket the next go round.

Others of my costumes include the Phantom of the Opera, which I also wore more than once, and Morpheus from the Matrix, although everyone swore up and down that I looked just like a Blues Brother. I clasped my hands behind my back just like Morpheus did in the movie the whole night. To this day, I’m not sure what made them mistake me for a Blues Brother. Was it the dark glasses, the three-quarter-length raincoat, the black shoes...?

Maybe someday I’ll figure it out, but until then, I hope you enjoy your week-end, study up for your tests early, and recall some of your favorite childhood memories of the Dentists’ Favorite Holiday!



I want to suck your... cookies



Huy
Bui

*Staff
Writer*

Huy again. Hopefully you've seen me around enough to recognize who I am, if not shame on you! You can find me a lot of the time in the JCR putting random movies on for people... or in the kitchen. I love the kitchen. Makes sense, because I love cooking! But a new trend (okay, not new) has been bothering me...people don't make cookies anymore. No, premade dough from a fat ball of dough shaped like a boy does not count. People need to make REAL cookies... and here's your chance. This wonderful recipe is courtesy of bakingbites.com... for vampire cookies. PERFECT for Halloween, just saying. The pale white really offsets the blood red. Try it!

Vampire Cookies

3/4 cup butter, softened
1/2 cup sugar
1 large egg
1/2 tsp vanilla extract
1/8 tsp almond extract
1 1/2 cups all purpose flour
1/4 tsp salt

approx 1/2 cup red jam (raspberry/strawberry)

In a large bowl, cream together butter and sugar until light. Beat in egg and extracts.

Add flour and salt to the bowl and mix them into the butter-sugar mixture at low speed until dough is just combined. Wrap dough in plastic wrap and refrigerate for at least 1 hour.

Preheat oven to 325F.

Divide dough in half and keep the portion you are not using in the refrigerator.

Roll dough out on a lightly floured surface until it is about 1/8-inch thick. Use a cookie cutter to cut out 2-inch rounds.

Place rounds on a baking sheet, put a teaspoon of jam on each of them and cover with another round of dough. Press edges down lightly, pinching the edges onto the cookie sheet. Use a toothpick and poke two small holes (like a vampire bite) in the top of each cookie.

Bake for 10-12 minutes, until cookies are set.

Cool for about 5 minutes on the baking sheet, then transfer to a wire rack to cool completely.

Dip a toothpick in some extra red jam and reinsert in the "bite" holes you made before baking to emphasize them, if not already red. Draw a blood trick down from one of the bites with the jam, if desired.

Cookies are best the day they are made.

Makes 2 dozen.

IN

candy corn

treats

hibernation

taking candy
from children

&

temperature changes

tricks

mid-terms

accepting candy
from strangers

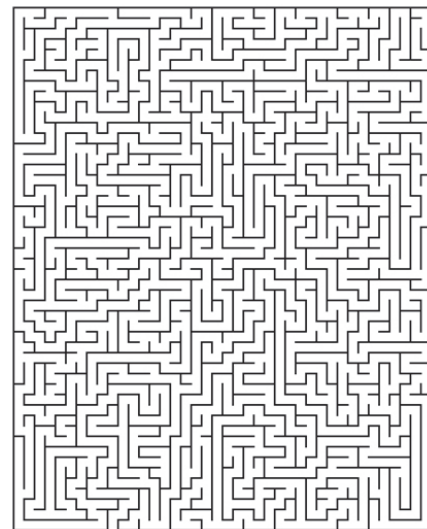
OUT

Sammy says...



I'm going to have to decline your costume party invite this year.

Help the spider find its web.... *by nathan fischer*



Happy
Halloween
from
The Torch!

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.'

Homecoming 2010

Photos by Justin Oxford, Anson Jablinski, Lindsay Putnam & Jennifer Atwood



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