

THE TORCH

The Brooks College Newsletter

October 3, 2007

Vol. 1, Issue 3

The Trinity Windows

By Emily Rodgers
Staff Writer

Have you ever walked past the side of the Robbins Chapel during the daytime and realized that you couldn't see the colorful images in the windows? If you step inside, however, the sunlight penetrates through the glass and reveals the stories in their intricate splendor. I use the word "story" deliberately here, because every window serves as a pictorial translation of a narrative that we should pause to consider. The Trinity windows tell a story that is particularly meaningful, and worth far more attention than I will be able to give them here.

Situated at the very front of the Chapel behind the altar are three long windows, each composed of four different panels. At the top of the left window is the Greek alpha, which reminds us that God was present at the

very beginning of time. Below that, we have a progression from creation of the world, to Moses receiving the law, and lastly to Isaiah's prophecy of the peaceable kingdom. These all speak in various ways to the work of God the Father in our world.

The center window reads from the lowest panel upwards, culminating in the classical symbol of the Trinity. It tells the story of Christ, depicting first his birth, then his death, and ultimately his resurrection. Just as the theologians of the Middle Ages recognized the need to create a visual symbol of the Trinity in order to aid in their understanding of an incomprehensible truth, so the Son took on a human form to connect us more closely to mysterious heart of God.

In the right window we observe the manifestations of the Holy Spirit in the Early Church. The omega at the top reminds us that God is not only the beginning of all things but also their ultimate end. For this reason the disciples gathered at the time of Pentecost, St. Paul preached to the Gentiles on Mars Hill, and St. John recorded his

Revelation on the island of Patmos (the three panels). This final scene shows Christ among the seven lampstands, and serves as a unique commentary on the windows themselves. Stained glass requires sunlight in order to serve its purpose. In the same way, it is only through the intervention of Divine Light that we are able to realize our own purpose as elucidated by St. Paul – to "know Him and the power of His resurrection." I encourage you to go and look at these windows for yourself. There is much more to be discovered.



Photo by Emilie Moore

The New Brooks Prayer Team

A Message from the Ministry and Service Committee

By Emilie Moore
Staff Writer

The Ministry and Service Committee is excited for our recently assembled prayer team! The idea behind this is that we want to support Brooks College in every way we can. We believe that one of the most powerful ways is through prayer and intercession. We want you to feel free to let us know if you have prayers or concerns during the week – we'll pray for each one. Just email your prayers and requests to brooksprayer@gmail.com.

We meet every Wednesday morning to pray for you together. If your prayer is urgent and needs prayer

before Wednesday, just let us know in the email and we'll take care of it. The prayer requests you share will be kept within the committee, but if you feel your request needs to be absolutely confidential, please email Andrea, one of our co-chairs, at andrea_pena@baylor.edu.

Our Committee does more than pray. We are also in the process of creating our mission statement, organizing a praise team, putting together other events, and God willing, organizing a mission trip. Our co-chairs have wonderful hearts for ministry, and each member of the committee contributes to our discussions and planning. It really is a great team.

Certainly none of us has life all figured out, and we all need prayer at times. That said, perhaps if you get the chance, say a little prayer for us as we try to serve Christ and Brooks. When you send a prayer request, you know we'll cover it in prayer; we'd like the same from you, because we're all in this together. If there's anything you need, or if you know of something that needs to be done, please let us know. Or better yet, stop by and check out a meeting!

As always, we love you all and will constantly be lifting up Brooks and Baylor in prayer. God bless, and sic 'em!

Can A New Building Live Up To Old Expectations?

An editorial by Steve Zimmerman

It is the newest building on Baylor's campus, the golden gem of Campus Living & Learning, and many eyes now look upon Brooks College to see if it will live up to expectations or fall into obscurity as simply another place to live on Baylor campus. At this time it is really hard to tell which of these outcomes will be true. However, as a former resident of Brooks Hall, current resident of Brooks College, and a student dedicated to the community that the Brooks name stands for, I see many great things as well as some things that should be brought to light.

First, the ultimate freebee, community dinners, intramural sports, prayer services and other college scheduled activities are doing great things for building the college community. Even as late or early (depending on how you look at it) as 3 a.m. I have seen tons of life from the junior commons area.

These are all great things and it is during these moments that I remember my time in the late Brooks Hall and think about Brooks College and the direction we're heading. In the old Brooks, for instance, we had set events and activities which created a foundation to what we eventually had in community. But

what made our place a model of community were the unplanned events. For example, I remember my CL back then, Bryan, taking myself and some other residents out to see a movie on weekends. I also remember random NERF games, which are starting to grow again at Brooks as well as Martin, and I remember random capture the flag games, water balloon fights, and movie nights down in the lobby as well. These events were what shaped our family the most and were some of the events that really drew us close together as a community and eventually as a family. I feel in Brooks College however, not enough is being done to bring out the "within Baylor rules" madness that really made the Brooks name great for us that lived in the old hall.

Case and point, it is the small unplanned events which really make a community stand out! Brooks' greatest tradition, the taking of the flame, is just around the corner and action is moving too slow on this front. Old "Brooks Men" must in these coming weeks work harder to really become a part of this new community and do ones duty to make this place live up to the Brooks name. And lastly there are the CLs and residents of the college. No matter who you are, there is something you can do to make this place

really great. It seems to me that right now a lot of people are talking, but few are actually moving to take action. Please don't confuse this for an attack on the College. All I'm saying is that more can be done and we can do even better! These are the times a few people can really lead the charge and do great things! If you have any random community ideas you want to plan, first knock on doors and get input about whatever you want to set up, or go to your CL, and lastly you can send me an e-mail and I will try to get your unofficial event in the next newsletter. Send your comments and suggestions to Steve_Zimmerman@baylor.edu and seize the day! In closing, I think this new building can and will live up to the high bar set by the old Brooks Hall. It will just take a little bit of random action on everyone's part for us to succeed.

BROOKS COLLEGE SWING FORMAL

Swing Under the Stars

Members of Brooks College:

Do you want a chance to practice your swing skills?

Well, here's your chance!!

There will be a Brooks semi-formal dance, featuring mainly swing-type dancing on **October 19th**.

You are allowed to invite one guest or feel free to go "stag".

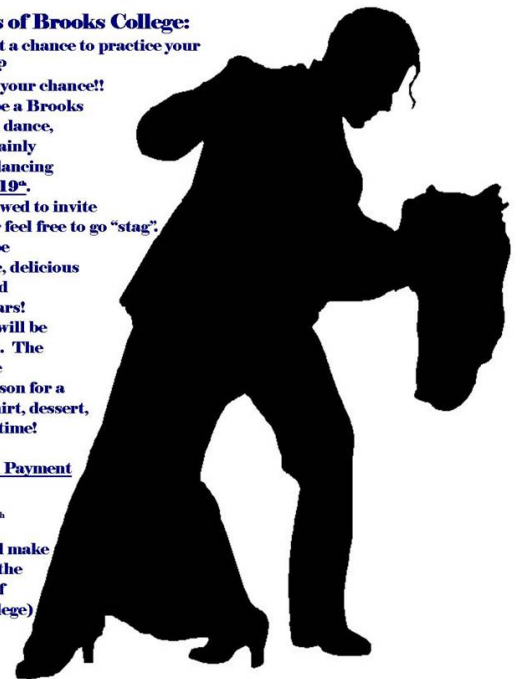
There will be swing music, delicious desserts, and beautiful stars!

Dress style will be semi-formal. The price will be \$10 per person for a ticket, a t-shirt, dessert, and a great time!

Signup and Payment Deadline:

October 7th

(Signup and make payment at the front desk of Brooks College)



Fine Arts Forecast

By Anson Jablinski

Staff Writer

Baylor Jazz Ensemble

Thursday, Oct. 4th at 7:30 pm in Jones Hall (McCrary Music Bld.). Free admission.

Parents' Weekend Choral Concert

Friday, Oct. 5th at 5:00 pm in Jones Hall (MMB). Free admission.

Student String Chamber Music Recital

Sunday, Oct. 7th at 3:00 pm in Meadows Recital Hall (McCrary Music Bld.). Free admission.

Baylor Concert Jazz Ensemble

Wednesday, Oct. 10th at 7:30 pm in Jones Hall (MMB). Free admission.

Martin Museum of Art

Current exhibition – Three Sculptors: Surls, Brosk, & Tobolowsky On display through Oct. 13th. Free admission. Check online (www.baylor.edu/martinmuseum) for museum hours

After Dark

Friday, Oct. 5th at 7 and 10 pm in Waco Hall. Tickets are \$10, \$12, or \$14. Call (254) 710-3210 for ticket information.

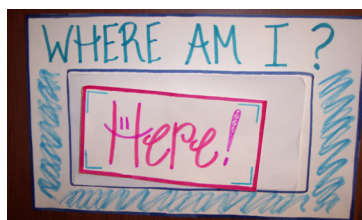
The next newsletter comes out on Oct. 17th, but be ready for a Baylor Wind Ensemble concert on Oct 18th.

CL Spotlight: Sarah Davila

By Courtney Jewett
Editor



- Lives on third Floor
- Sophomore
- Elementary Education Major
- From San Antonio
- A member of Chi Omega



"SARAH'S REALLY COMPAS-
SIONATE.
AND SHE STAYS ON TASK
LIKE

NOBODY'S BUSINESS."

-Sarah's CL rounds partner, Matt Bondy

Dislikes:

- Chocolate, Coffee, or the combination of the two!



Loves:

- Singing/ songwriting (Contemporary Christian),
- playing piano,/ worship leading
- training in running,
- her family
- shopping, food, driving, and
- Ice-cream: "it's my weakness!"

Fun Facts:

- Dates an Aggie named Josef (with that spelling)
- Has a brother here at Baylor- Trey Guinn, the Hall Director of North Village
- Leads a weekly bible study for the girls on her hall

Sarah is the easiest CL to track down, with an always updated door sign informing her residents that she is "On-Campus", "Here", "Out-of-Town," or "Sleeping".

Sarah Davila was all about Brooks from the beginning. She was accepted as a member of the college, and later decided to give up her spot in the hope of being able to serve as a CL for the residential community.

Brooks College Hall Director, Larry Correll-Hughes remembers eating lunch

with Sarah last year, and helping her to figure out if she should apply as a community leader. Although she wasn't sure if she was right for the job, it was obvious to Larry that she had great potential as a leader.

"Her enthusiasm is contagious," says Larry. "And I don't think anyone can doubt her sincerity."

These positive qualities are evident through what she describes as her life's ambition- "To pour out for the Lord and to be really

open to Him, giving up all stability."

As an Elementary Ed. major, Sarah aspires to be a "nurturing" teacher, and to someday teach English overseas.

"Most people don't realize how differently I think about life," added Sarah. While she is certainly outgoing and cheerful, Sarah is also a deep-thinking, artistic individual. She loves getting to know her residents, and is thrilled about being a part of this community.

The Torch Team

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Emilie Moore	Rachel Bruce
Steve Zimmerman	Robert Weissenberg
Marty Richters	Trenton Smith

"Passing the Torch on since...
Fall 2007."

Join The Torch Team, e-mail below for information

Send letters to the Editor and
submissions to:
thetorch@mail.org

Deciding Where to Live

2008/2009 Housing

By Courtney Jewett
Editor

I've spent my first semester at Baylor in North Russell, the second in Memorial, the third year off-campus at The Center, and here I am now, a Senior, living in Brooks College.

My sorority sisters think I'm crazy for living on campus during my last year. Truth is, I was preparing to sign my lease at an apartment (way) off-campus, when I first heard Baylor was building a 'residential community'.

The idea of an intentional community where people would actually get to know one another, and work together with a common purpose, sounded great. Deciding to live in Brooks brought the promise of new experiences and traditions that would

continue beyond our time at Baylor.

Brooks College has only existed for a few months, and many of its members are already having to decide if they will continue living here in the year to come. Freshman signed a two-year commitment to live in the college, but the decision still rests in their hands. Obviously the community will only work if it's comprised of people who really desire something more than the typical college living experience.

Think about how unique our community actually is. From family-style Sunday night dinners, to being able to engage with well-known, prestigious individuals who come as guests, Brooks College offers more than any other dorm (or any living arrangement).

Brooks has Bible studies, academic study groups, daily prayer time in the Chapel, sports and recreation, an

amazing Junior Commons, our own dining hall, a soon-to-be library, and the support and encouragement of our Faculty Master, Community Leaders, and Hall Director. Did I mention we even have our own Newsletter?

With each year, and each new member, Brooks College will continue to grow and evolve to fulfill its vision. The only question is whether you will remain a part of it.

As you make this important decision, keep in mind why you originally chose to live here. I trust that if it was for the right reasons, you will want to continue to live here as a proud, committed member of a community unlike any other.



Photo by Rachel Bruce

Dear Brooksmeister...

As reported by the Brooksmeister

To my beloved readers,

I very much appreciate the men and women of Brooks who took the time to share their thoughts, hopes, and emotional ramblings with me. Today, I choose to highlight those supplications that were related to relationships at Brooks College.

Dear Brooksmeister,

I'm a little confused about the men of Brooks College. What exactly goes on in the mind of the Brooks men? What exactly are they seeking? And finally, a little dating advice.

How does a Brooks gal, such as myself, show a Brooks guy that she's interested?

—Bashful Brooks Gal

Dear Bashful,

Although I haven't seen so many questions in one paragraph since I took the SAT, I know just what to tell you. The answer is – I don't know. Different guys look for different things in a romantic partner, and the way to find out is to check their Facebook. Their relationship status and "looking for" sections should tell you exactly what's going on in their life. Next, the best way to show someone that you're interested in them is to stick to them like glue at our Sunday night Community Dinners. Hopefully the architecture of the

Great Hall will lend itself to your goals as you endeavor to cast your magic spell upon your love interest. And finally, the best advice of all – be yourself and relax. Or at least, try to. Have fun, and good luck,

—The BM

Dear Brooksmeister,

How do I get guys to stop liking me? Sometimes I think that guys stare at my closed window from across the Quad.

—Targeted at Brooks

Dear Bull's-Eye,

Place a poster of your favorite actor in the window (facing outwards) and write all over your Facebook about how much you love him. ...wait... what? What's wrong with the men of Brooks?

—The BM

Dear Brooksmeister,

What is it with guys and their video games? I didn't see my boyfriend for a whole day after Halo 3 was released. Is this actually "normal"? —Bewildered at Brooks

Dear Bewildered,

A day? You are a lucky woman – it took some

guys several days to beat Halo 3. I'm glad you two have survived, because the sad truth, as one local expert described it, is that "over the next few weeks, approximately 70% of all relationships will fail." Personally, I believe that our relationships with friends, girl/boy-friends, family, and faculty should be our first priority – just as the ability to love and serve one another is our greatest blessing. I do like them video games, though, even if I don't get to spend as much time with them as I would like. Defending truth, justice, and Brooks College from the assailers of the world is a lot more time-consuming than I thought it would be when I signed up for this Gmail account.

—The BM

Thank you for joining me as we explored relationships at Brooks College. I look forward to writing to you all again soon.

Affectionately Yours,

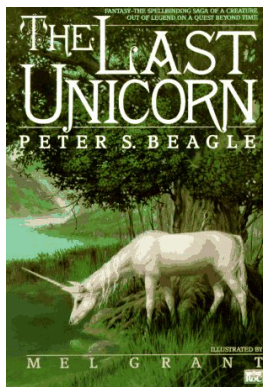
—The BM

I hope you will send me some email, Lest my humorous writing get stale. If you've something to say, Please, fire away! – To Dr.Brooksmeister at gmail.

Book Review- The Last Unicorn

By Robert Weissenberg

Staff Writer



Thinking herself the last, a unicorn leaves her tranquil forest in search of others like her. Along her quest, she is accompanied first by Schmendrick, a mediocre magician aptly named “the runeless wonder”, and Molly Grue, the disenchanted wife of a failed bandit leader. Together they journey to King Haggard’s country, where the unicorns are said to have been driven by the mysterious Red Bull. When they confront this dread beast, the unicorn is magically transformed into something she never expected to be and the story truly begins. A tale of love and loss, *The Last Unicorn* is more than a mere fable. Strewed with anachronisms and wit, the book is at once a fairy tale and a satire of the genre. But, as with *Gulliver’s Travels*, it is best read purely for aesthetic pleasure, and the reader must willingly submit to the author’s marvelous vision in order to truly get lost in this rich world. No less charming than Perrault’s *Fairy Tales* and just as clever as any of Lewis Carroll’s nonsense, *The Last Unicorn* is both frivolously fun and incredibly learned, weaving in various strands of knowledge ranging from Pindar to Norse mythology. Nevertheless, it is extremely accessible to readers of all ages and perhaps most effectively read by reality-intoxicated college students. If you never had a chance to enjoy this classic fantasy story as a child, it’s not too late to pick it up and revive its magic.

Movie Review- The Kingdom

By Andi Nakasone

Assistant Editor

Direct from the studios of Hollywood comes *The Kingdom*, which was released last weekend with a special advance screening given to the students of Baylor a week in advance (Go Baylor!). The goal of *The Kingdom* is simple: to present the political, economical and moral dilemma between the U.S. and the Middle East (and to kick some tail in the meantime). From the very beginning, the movie conjures up a stylized montage of Middle Eastern history, religious conflict and the 9/11 attacks. From there, the movie conjures its own terrorist attack in Saudi Arabia that sets the ball rolling for a FBI investigation team, as they travel to the Saudi Kingdom to assist the government in catching those responsible. For the first hour and a half the pacing of *The Kingdom* seems like that of a lengthy CSI episode, while the last few minutes are left to fill the shoes of a typical Hollywood action film. In between these sections, however, there is a surprising amount of humor coming from the interactions between the Saudi police officer and the main character played by Jamie Foxx. Overall, *The Kingdom* is a fleshed out and well realized allegory of the Iraq War, though it seems a falter does come at the film’s climax when (all of sudden) this small aggregate of CSI’s can ostensibly dodge bullets better than Neo and kill swarms of terrorists faster than Jack Bauer on a bad day. But even so, it is used effectively to set up the final moral quip that seems to accurately portray the shared, vicious view that persists between Islamic radicals and U.S. soldiers- “We will Kill them all.”

Review ***



Music Review- Inhuman Rampage

By Marty Richters

Staff Writer



In mid 2006, the U.K. band, Dragonforce, made their professional debut in the United States with the cross-Atlantic release of their third album “Inhuman Rampage.” With guitar solos and fantasy-style lyrics, the music seemingly thrusts you into an epic battle between good and evil. While the label ‘metal’ usually bears a negative connotation, *Inhuman Rampage*’s music is uplifting and inspirational through its use of elemental imagery. Images of fire and thunder operate as poetic convoys for glory, war, and honor, and also reference such ideas as standing against oppression, fighting for what is right and never giving in to fear. Everything about the album is fast, from the long guitar solos—found in the middle of every song—to the soaring, Journey-esque vocals which amplify the music’s epic quality. Each song on the album, starting with the first track, “Through the Fire and the Flames,” to the closing ballad, “Trail of Broken Hearts,” show off the skills of the band members. Of the eight tracks on the album, only one is below the 6 minute-mark while most exceed the 7 minute-mark. While this album is, indeed, fun to listen to, it can be criticized for its often redundant song structure and the occasional cheesy lyric. In spite of these criticisms, the album is still worth a listen. **Review ******

The Albums Best:

“Operation Ground and Pound,” “Cry for Eternity,” “Through the Fire and the Flames” “Trail of Broken Hearts.”

Sammy Says...

*Give me Archways,
or give me Death!*



disclaimer Dr. Samuel Palmer Brooks did not (to our knowledge) actually say the above quote. We also have no record that he ever went by the nickname of 'Sammy'.

The Magic of Brooks College

By: Sarah John; Staff Writer

We've all heard it from the beginning... "Brooks College will be just like Hogwarts!" Well folks, I'm here to tell you that it's completely true. Living here is exactly like living in Hogwarts.

For example, we have a Great Hall. And every morning during breakfast, the owls swoop in to bring us our mail. The ceiling mirrors the sky above, and the room is lit entirely by candlelight. Well – we have a Great Hall, anyway. That's pretty close. And we drink out of mini crystal goblets, which magically refill themselves whenever you run out of your drink (which takes only a few swallows).

And the painting of President Brooks himself? Well, just go and have a chat with him. He's getting pretty lonely up there with no other paintings to talk to yet, and he'd really love to meet all of us (though he isn't making any promises that he'll remember all our names).

Every day, on our way to class, we

all think to ourselves how wonderful it would be to just Apparate there, to avoid the pedestrian traffic between here and wherever we're headed... but alas, this is impossible: no one can Apparate in or out of school grounds. Anyone who's read Brooks College, A History should know that. It doesn't matter how far away our Potions classes are – we all just have to suck it up and hike to the Science Building, despite our magical abilities.

We have our own Quidditch team... kind of. We have Ultimate Frisbee, at least, and that's fairly close. Both sports involve objects flying through the air and players who have a passion for their game.

Our rooms all have four poster beds, of course. And to get into our rooms, we all must remember to carry our magic wand and remember the password to punch into the keypad so the door will open. Maybe we don't all live in the same room as other students of our year, but we still share a sense of camaraderie with those who leave nearest to us.

I still have yet to find the Room of Requirement, however. If you do, please do let me know.

Tower in the Sea

By: Robert Weissenberg; Staff Writer

She left the house enraged and toward the park walked with little brother trailing behind.

Sister, he said, wait

Im goin to do it I dont care what he says he doesnt understand how I feel he doesnt know what

Im goin through he gave to me that blue flower he did pick from her garden

He sweats a little sliver and she speeds her pace as if never tired but he is unable to keep up and begins to run and she coughs and he stands still.

Sister

The sadness flowed in through her eyes, spreading itself between her flesh and crystal bones, writhing there awhile until hardened by time. She had long lived in sorrow.

Why won't she hear me?

is it too late

She stopped, placed her right hand on her belly, and with her left held a rusted iron band. She remained staring deeply into it. A tear dropped into the hollow of her hand and she noticed its transparency.

lacking mystery entire

The luster on high was momentarily visible, a hard flash of neon black atop the world's pyramid.

It happened long ago that she had come to inhabit a tower in the sea whose foundation was the earth's very center and certain sages on the moon theorize that perhaps this rock is merely an outgrowth of the tower itself an emanation of that femina damnata but none can ever say as seeing such would disrobe man of his triple tunics and hurl him into inner darkness unspeakable. Inside the tower's unlit hollow she sat upon her ivory throne a crimson chalice in her hand containing liquid light glowing just enough to reveal these things. Outside sunsparks dove into the newborn sea becoming smooth fish of unreadable form throwing themselves against the tower impenetrable fizzing into naught. They sow seeds of life and reap bloody thorns.

Once she lay crouched beneath that cherub's flaming sword but with her cold froze the flame and with her gaze shattered shards scattered onto barren soil. Without his brand, the cherub collapsed in fear of all who glanced at his nakedness and timid as a child folded himself into himself then disappearing. Without its guard the garden tempted none and so all its mystery faded.

Her brother looked into her eyes and there he saw the end of time and

To reach her, thought the boy, m...

an empty nest on an oak tree's twisted branch.

Must I become this sadness, too?