

THE TORCH

March 20, 2008

The Brooks College Newsletter Vol. 1, Issue 7



Photos by: Courtney Jewett



Brooks members serve as Tour Guides during premiere



Celebrate Spring: Brooks-Style!

Emily Rodgers
Staff Writer

As spring begins to make its mark on campus, the Brooks College Council is ready to answer the call of the outdoors. Hopefully you have all saved the dates of March 28th-30th, because we have planned a weekend filled with fun activities. Here's a taste of everything that we will be doing...

On Friday, March 28th, the first EVER Brooks Olympics will begin on Minglewood Bowl around 4:00pm. The Campus Life (aka Intramurals) Committee is organizing an assortment of competitions, including Tug-of-War, Ultimate Frisbee, and relays. After playing for a few hours, we will stop for a pizza picnic on the terrace and fuel up for the huge game of Capture the Flag that will serve to close the day.

Saturday, March 19th, is the day of the Traditional Brooks Tree Planting Ceremony. This is an occasion that harkens back to the days when S. P. Brooks was the President of Baylor. Here is how it would work: The senior class, followed by members of the junior class, would slowly file to the site of the tree-planting and form a circle around the hole where the tree was going to be placed. An invocation, poem, and song, all composed by students especially for the occasion, would be read or sung. The seniors each placed a spadeful of dirt onto the roots of the newly planted tree and then handed the spade to the junior class representative for use the following year. The President himself was always in attendance to accept the gift as well. The Community and Traditions Com-

mittee will be holding a poetry/song contest for the ceremony, so if you are poetically or musically inclined, stay tuned for more details.

Finally, on Sunday afternoon we will have a group photograph taken of all the inaugural members of the College standing together outside the building. A lovely Community Dinner will finish out the weekend.

My reason for recounting all of this is not only to alert you to a wonderful opportunity within the College, but also to highlight some of the things that contribute most to building a community. While we have had many occasions to get to know one another since last August, there is just something special about getting outside and engaging in activities that promote camaraderie (or healthy rivalry, as the case may be). Additionally, when we take time to improve the aesthetic appearance of our college, we remember the importance of beauty and maintaining our surroundings. The Tree Planting Ceremony will also serve as a real-life example of "passing on the torch," and will create a sense of identity and legacy, as will the group photo.

Lastly, as Dr. Henry and others have already eloquently articulated, sharing a meal together is one of the primary ways to promote community. That said I sincerely hope that you, as a participant in the Brooks College Community, will join us for a wonderful weekend.

Fine Arts Forecast

Anson Jablinski
Staff Writer



Shakespeare at the Armstrong Browning Library: Much Ado About Nothing
Tuesday, March 25th through Saturday, March 29th at 7:00 pm in the Foyer of Meditation. Call 710-4968 or stop by the Library for more information.

Martin Museum of Art

Upcoming exhibitions – Annual Art Student and Annual Studio Art Faculty Exhibitions on display starting March 27th. Free admission. See www.baylor.edu/martin-museum for museum hours and more information.

Waco Symphony

Featuring two native Wacoan and nationally-acclaimed guest artists. Saturday, March 29th at 7:30 pm in Waco Hall. Student tickets are \$5 at the door.

Men's Choir

Tuesday, April 15th at 7:30 pm in Jones Hall (McCrary Music Building). Free admission.

Waco Symphony

With guest pianist Alexander Kobrin performing Rachmaninoff's 2nd Piano Concerto. Thursday, April 17th at 7:30 in Waco Hall. Student tickets are \$5 at the door.

Baylor University President's Concert

Featuring the Baylor Symphony Orchestra and Baylor Choral Union. Saturday, April 19th at 7:30 pm in Jones Hall. Call 254-710-3571 for ticket information.

WELCOME TO THE NEWEST MEMBER OF BROOKS COLLEGE... Brooks Bradley Correll-Hughes!!!



Congratulations Mr. and Mrs. Correll-Hughes!



Larry Correll-Hughes is the Resident Hall Director of Brooks College

Torch Staff (in this issue)

Courtney Jewett.....Editor
Emilie Moore.....Staff Writer
Emily Rodgers.....Staff Writer
Anson Jablinski.....Staff Writer
Alex Tworkowski....Staff Writer
Brooksmeister.....Contributer

Passing on the Torch since Fall 2007

Stupendous Ingenious Night of Greatness



Emilie Moore

Staff Writer

It was the best of times; it was the worst of times. It was a night of wonder; it was an evening of thrills. It was the longest performance I have attended, to date. And yet, none of these meager descriptions can fully emphasize the marvel that is SING.

As an outsider who took it all in from the balcony, I was tremendously impressed. To begin with, I couldn't for the world imagine myself on that stage - unless I was invisible and a mute. For four hours, my mind was filled with flashes of brilliance and energy, catchy tunes, and groovy dance moves. Sometimes I wanted to dance but for the sake of my fellow audience members, I refrained from it. Yes, you can thank me later.

The most remarkable facet of Sing, however, seemed to be the amount of coordination and cooperation that took place between groups and individuals. I'd say this performance is an enormous feat of communication, let alone entertainment. Let's think about it for a moment: hundreds of students dancing on stage, each in full costume and perfectly synchronized in movement; a smoothly flowing musical track, appropriately complementing each act's theme; incredible and unique set design, complete with movable props; fantastic lighting and effects (including oodles of smoke); and let's not forget the live music. I sat in awe the entire evening at the skill and heart put into this spectacle. It could even be said that more communication and teamwork occurs in preparation for and presentation of Sing than exists in our government.

But enough from my point of view; some of our very own Brooks residents participated in this miraculous event. Gary Guadagnolo has now participated in SING for three years with Phi Kappa Chi. This grand event is one of his favorite parts of being in his fraternity. Although it entails a respectable amount of work and time, he sees that he can use it to develop a sense of brotherhood within the group. Gary enjoyed Phi Kappa Chi's performance, which was focused on the freedom Christ brings. He mentioned that after all the hard work and sweat that has been put into the act, it's rewarding to see it pay off when it's finally show time. "It is very hard to describe the experience of participating in SING to those who haven't been in it before; there is something about working hard with your friends, agonizing over difficult moves, learning to hit the right notes while singing, and keeping a smiling face while on stage in front of thousands of people that can just not be replicated."

Corey Zamzow is a member of Sing Alliance, where, as he says, they're not necessarily about the rigorous training, but more about enjoying the dance, the music, and each other. It's a community-based organization, although the judging is certainly a factor. Corey also makes a point about the amount of commitment involved in being a member of Sing. Corey said SING is exhausting, time-consuming, and causes the participant to become absent from most normal daily activities. Evidently, those who give up so much have to really love what they do. But for those who take part, according to Corey, "It is completely worth it!"

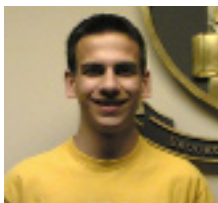
I couldn't help but feel proud of Brooks and our university as I watched my friends and acquaintances and even strangers give all they had on that stage. Imagine performing in front of thousands of your peers, just hoping that they are enjoying it as much as you are. Imagine giving months of emotional and physical energy for a few nights of intense celebration. I will likely never fully understand the meaning of the experience, but I can appreciate the dedication, the rushes of adrenaline, and the anticipation. As traditions go, I'd say SING is a keeper.



Fervent Servants

Alex Tworkowski

Staff Writer



"You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them and their great men exercise authority over them. It is not this way among you, but whoever wishes to become great among you shall be your servant, and whoever wishes to be first among you shall be your slave; just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many" (Matthew 20:25-28).

In this quotation, Jesus describes the essence of the concept we know as "servant leadership." He recognized that people who wanted to be great sought positions of office in which they could "exercise authority" over others. Pride made people

seek power, importance, and fame among others; being a ruler was (and is) the commonly viewed method of obtaining these things.

The Lord Jesus declares another route to greatness: humble service to others. He tells His disciples that they must be servants and slaves in order to be "first". This statement probably baffled His disciples; they could not see the glory associated with serving people. Weren't rulers and great people supposed to be served?

His disciples did not see what Jesus saw. They did not understand the meaning of His command. They thought that the purpose of leadership was to become great.

Jesus knew that leadership was the purpose and greatness was the blessing and by-product. Through this radical form of becoming great the disciples would realize the truth and depth of their Lord's command. They would no longer seek greatness but rather would seek the salvation and edification of countless souls.

As the disciples rediscovered the purpose of leadership, let us reexamine our motives for leadership. Are we serving others because we want to be obedient to our Lord and want to experience the joy of leading others to Him? Let us look to our example of leadership—our Leader and suffering servant Jesus Christ, who laid aside His holiness for us, bore our grief and

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Same Kind of Different

Book Review

Emilie Moore

Staff Writer

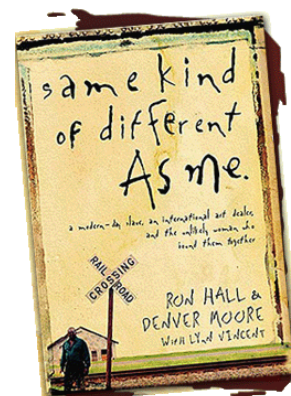
"I used to spend a lot of time worrying that I was different from other people, even from other homeless folk. Then after I met Miss Debbie and Mister Ron, I worried that I was so different from them, that we weren't ever going to have no kind of future. But I found out, everybody's different; the same kind of different as me..."

Denver Moore never thought he would meet anyone like himself. He saw those he met as separate. When he met Debbie and Ron Hall, he thought he could never relate to them because they were different. Ron Hall felt the same. But God somehow wove their lives together in a mysterious but wonderful way. *The Same Kind of Different as Me* is that story.

Denver grew up sharecropping on a plantation, where he encountered hardships and harsh

treatment and discrimination. He made a life for himself, but unfortunately it led to crime. He found himself living on the streets, with no way out. Ron grew up in a fairly normal family, married the girl he met in college, and created a career for himself as an art dealer. In a way, he also saw no way out – out, that is, of making money and furthering his livelihood. He was also by no means perfect. But God used him and his wife to bring about change in one man, who would in turn change so much more.

God's grace and His will in this story never cease to amaze me. It reminds me that God does work miracles and spiritual transformations even today. He speaks through dreams, and He speaks through men. I am not saying too much about the narration because if you have read it, you already know and if you haven't, hopefully you'll want to know. Nevertheless, the book's message is something we all need to hear. There may be



people who, you think, need you, but the truth is, you need them just as much (if not more). It is possible to be content but still ignorant. It is also possible to be aware of all the world's evils and still be content. However, the latter can only be when God has room to work on the heart.

I suppose that's the center of this book: the heart. Because God was so alive in Debbie Hall's heart, she convinced her husband to go with her to serve the homeless. Because Ron's love for his wife was so strong in his heart, he agreed. For the same reason, he befriended Denver. Because of God's work on Denver's heart, Denver became a prayer warrior and a servant for the Lord. Because of Denver's heart for God, Ron saw God's love at work and his heart filled with love as well. After all, while each of us is different, walking separate paths, we all share one thing the same: God is after our hearts

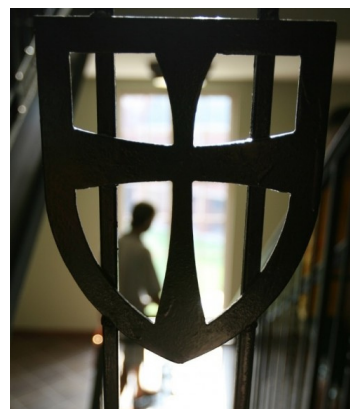
Fervent Servants continued

sorrows, was pierced through his brow, hands, and feet for our transgressions, crushed for our iniquities, chastened for our well-being, and healed us by his scourging, torture, and death (Isaiah 53:4-5).

“We know love by this, that He laid down His life for us; and we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren” (1 John 3:16). We need to disregard ourselves in order to lovingly serve others. The Lord Jesus is looking for fervent servants who are zealous for Him: “Whatever you do, do your work heartily, as for the Lord rather than for men, knowing that from the Lord you will

receive the reward of the inheritance. It is the Lord Christ whom you serve” (Colossians 3:23-24).

As a community, we need to have a passion for serving others. We can start with small acts of service, such as helping someone carry groceries into Brooks or by serving food to those around us at Community Dinner. It is in those deeds that community is built, and our Lord is honored.



Put on a Happy Face

Emily Rodgers

Staff Writer

It must have been an interesting sight. Twenty-two Brooks College members, including students, faculty, and staff, traipsing across campus in the gathering dusk towards the Jones Theatre, dressed up for an evening out. Laughter and conversation fills the air, and the excitement continues to increase as we near our destination. As the curtains rose on the Baylor Theatre production of “Bye Bye Birdie,” I looked around at the group of my friends and colleagues and realized that there was no other place that I would rather be on a Friday night. Believe me, I am being completely “Honestly Sincere”...

During intermission, we all mixed and mingled to talk about our favorite scenes and musical numbers, the impressiveness of the set, the creative costuming, and everything else that one might discuss about a show. A few weeks in advance, we had asked to speak with the director after the production to query her about her experience. In theatre-



speak, this is called a “talkback,” and after the curtains went down and the rest of the audience had departed, we were joined in the auditorium by Lisa Denman and about twenty members of the Bye Bye Birdie cast. We had a wonderful chat for about half-an-hour and heard all about what is involved in directing and acting in a musical of such a scale. As we were conversing, our own Meg Sullivan was working hard as a Crew member to clean up the stage and prepare everything for the next day’s performance. We got a wonderful glimpse of what it takes to perform both on and off the stage. As we walked back to Brooks College, we continued to reflect on everything we had seen and heard. The whole experience certainly made me “Put On A Happy Face.”

Our university does an excellent job of promoting the various Study Abroad opportunities that are available to students. One of the best things about studying overseas is that you forge memories with other Baylor students

that last for many years to come. However, we often forget that we are able to reproduce similar experiences here on campus. Granted, it is difficult to find places at Baylor that are as exotic as Rome, Spain, Paris, or Thailand; but our visit to the theatre was like a trip backwards in time, and the important thing was that we travelled there together. That may sound a little bit ridiculous, but the truth is that these opportunities are the things I will remember the most about my time at Brooks. Hopefully, a new theatre-going tradition has been established that will continue in the years to come. Who knows? We might even try to do it again before the semester is over! Regardless of whether or not you enjoy musicals, I hope this little revue has reminded you to continue to seek out experiences with your colleagues that you will remember long into the future, and if you have ideas about things you think we should do as a group then please let us know!

Super Smash Bros. Brawl Delivers

Anson Jablinski
Staff Writer



With a release date of March 9, 2008 – the very day our week of Spring Break began – the third game of the Super Smash Bros. series couldn't have come at a better time. I stopped by Target as soon as I could and picked up my copy of perhaps the most anticipated game of... 2007? Well, the original release date was 2007, until it was delayed, and delayed again... Although such delays are annoying at first, the argument is that the game will be even better as a result – and I believe that we certainly have a masterpiece.

While the series mostly focuses on multi-player gameplay, Brawl offers an outstanding one-player adventure called "The Subspace Emissary." The adventure, which runs about eight hours, takes most (if not all) of the characters of Brawl through a storyline that spans across a wide variety of locations.

Some complaints have been raised about the simplicity of the storyline (good guys, bad guys, and saving the world) or about the fact that the characters, though beautifully animated in a number of cinematic scenes, never speak. However, I find that that's missing the real point of Subspace Emissary, which is to give gamers a fun trip through a huge variety of character's personalities, moves, and fighting styles. The fact that the characters never speak, but still manage to tell a story is an immense credit to the skills of the character designers and animators. Some of the cut scenes are honestly funny, and all of them give our favorite Nintendo characters a chance to let their personalities shine.

In fact, there are so many characters, I'm having trouble picking just one to use. The original Super Smash Bros. game had twelve, Melee had 26, and Brawl – well, I have 31 at the moment, and I know there are still more to be unlocked. This explosion in the amount of playable characters allows gamers to explore all these great characters and pick not one, but several, that they can identify

with and use.

Link, Peach, and other veterans make a strong return. Among the new characters, Solid Snake's explosive attacks are no joke, and Zero-Suit Samus is definitely worth checking out. Olimar and many other new characters are very interesting to play with, but I won't name any more to avoid spoilers.

Final Smashes – a character-specific move triggered by a Smash Ball – are cool, though some characters seem to have "better" moves (Fox's Landmaster, Link's Triforce attack) than others (Wario's... garlic suit?).

Various control schemes are offered, and for any setup, all the buttons are customizable. Experienced gamers almost unanimously prefer the Gamecube controller, but to be fair, I tried out the other control schemes – using the Wii remote actually feels pretty good, but as I was far too used to using my right thumb to jump, I ended up falling to my death while repeatedly punching the air one too many times.

The new stages are lots of fun, and some (such as the Lylat Cruise and Halberd) are absolutely gorgeous as they fly by. Six Melee stages are back as well. The new Stage Builder is nifty, though a bit limited by necessity.

Nintendo's WiFi Connection mode works well. I've read lots of complaints about Nintendo's Friend Code system, but it personally doesn't bother me much at all.

Throughout the game, small nuts and bolts have been tweaked for the better, and make getting from the title screen to a versus match even smoother than before.

Rotation mode, which existed under Tournament mode in Melee, makes a reenergized appearance. I have been trying to raise awareness of this mode, which is perfect for parties with lots of people, ever since I discovered it in Melee several years ago. Finally, and best of all, you can still use the C-stick to shake the menus around and annoy your friends when they aren't choosing their characters fast enough.

The good old, nostalgic feel of the series is ever-present in this shining gem of a game. I have absolutely no reason not to recommend this game to anyone – experienced gamers will have a blast, and the new layout of the menus makes it very easy for newcomers to understand the different gameplay options. And, should anyone be interested in a challenge, I welcome any throw-downs at any time.

CL Spotlight Q & A

Alyson Erikson

Courtney Jewett
Editor

Classification: Junior

Major: Film and Digital Media; Minor: Studio Art

University involvement (clubs, etc): Vice President of Circle K International, Member of SMPTE

What are some of your interests and hobbies? Playing guitar, drinking coffee, playing pool, hanging out with friends.

Why did you choose to live in Brooks College? The traditions and community life is unique to anything else I have ever seen.

Describe your CL style: I'm there for my girls, and they know that they can come to me for anything... I'm the event planner, the night owl, and the "hey, you wanna do this?" kind of person.

Why did you want to be a CL? I'm a people person, I love that everyone comes from all different walks of life, and I hope that people may be able to find joy and happiness in their year, whether it be their first or last at Baylor.

What was your favorite Brooks experience thus far? I love Rock Band Thursdays!!! We stay up until all hours playing, talking, and getting to know one another... and it's a time to relax with your community and shoot the breeze.

How has being a CL impacted your life? I learned a lot about myself. I know that I can't solve everyone's problems and that I can't be there all the time, because I'm human. But, as a CL, I understand what organization, responsibility, and prioritizing mean, more than I ever did before.

What's your favorite ice-cream flavor and why? Bluebell's Banana Pudding... I love Bananas!!!

Garrett Nauschutz

Classification: Sophomore

Major/minor: Business

University involvement (clubs, etc): Phi Kappa Chi

What are some of your interests and hobbies? I enjoy music, friends, sports, photography, and any combination.

Why did you choose to live in Brooks College? I wanted to be a part of something unique

Describe your CL style: I'm pretty laid-back in my approach to being a CL. All but one of my residents are upperclassmen, so I try to be respectful of their already-developed lifestyles and just take it as it comes.

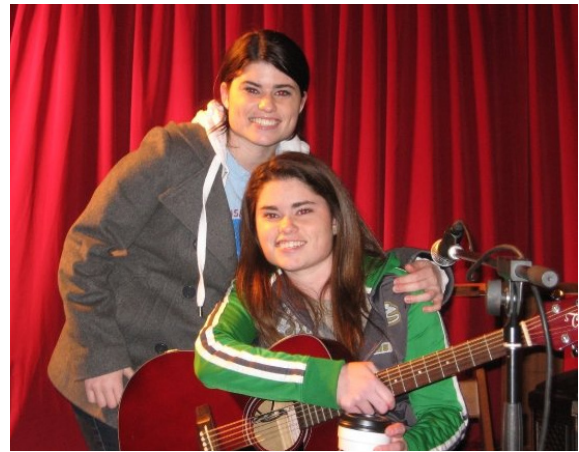


Why did you want to be a CL? I wanted to be a CL to live and learn alongside my residents.

What was your favorite Brooks experience thus far? Anytime spent in the JCR hanging out.

How has being a CL impacted your life? It's taught me to consider humility in all situations.

What's your favorite ice-cream flavor and why? Mint Chocolate Chip: I really couldn't tell you why.



MacBook Air Breezes into Stores; 32.60 Tons of Brooks Recyclables Easily Collected

As reported by the Brooksmeister

Less than two months ago, Apple's latest innovation stormed its way into the market. The MacBook Air, currently the smallest, thinnest, and lightest laptop available, stunned Apple fans, and yet others were stunned to find that the laptop does not have a built-in CD drive. (The vast majority of the population, however, remains most likely unaware of this fact.)

"I remember when the iMac turned up without a floppy drive, back in 1998," says one local interviewee. "I couldn't believe it at first, but little did I know that Apple was speeding the world of computing ahead into a new age."

According to Apple's promotional video, "MacBook Air was built for the wireless world." Instead of watching DVDs (and thus, using CD drives), users should try downloading movies through iTunes. This move is the latest of Apple's recent bold steps in the world of digital ownership of media.

Apple TV, released in March 2007, is a direct-to-TV hub through which consumers purchase movies and TV shows for watching at leisure.

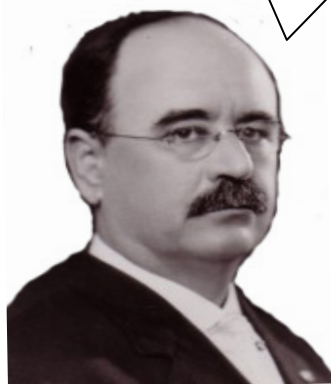
Recently, iTunes has also begun offering digital movie rentals – movies that you can download and watch through iTunes that automatically expire 24 hours after you first start to watch them.

But, will this trend catch on? Will families of the future store their movie collections on hard drives instead of shelves? Shelves full of CDs and DVD cases are far more impressive to behold than a screenful of iTunes downloads.



Sammy Says...

Hippity-Hop
Hippity-Hop
Easter's on it's
Way!!!



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'.

Apple's interesting ideas aside, does the MacBook Air blow away the competition?

The laptop itself, with OS X Leopard, is great. The large trackpad and Trackpad Gestures are cool, as is the light-up keyboard. And the size is unbelievable, even as you're holding it in your hands.

"Drafting emails over AirBear is a breeze, and although the external CD drive can suck a lot of power, I certainly don't expect it to blow my motherboard anytime soon," remarks a fellow Brooksman. "Actually, I was just trying to see how many wind-related words I could cram into one sentence."

If you do decide to purchase a MacBook Air, just make sure you don't let it get buried and lost in a stack of papers sometime, or else you might find yourself unwittingly contributing to Brooks' outstanding recycling totals.

Yes, as is the custom here at Brooks, we have broken yet another campus record. For those who didn't read the email from Mr. Correll-Hughes, Brooks easily broke Baylor's record for the total tons of material recycled in one month. Using the strategically-placed blue recycling bins on every floor, the men and women of Brooks have quickly demonstrated their dedication to the conservation of our natural environment through recycling. Old calculus notes, Dr. Pepper cans, and empty Herbal Essence bottles are quickly finding their way to their final, Earth-friendly destination.

Be careful not to recycle any unauthorized or biohazardous materials, however. Your roommate's calculus notes, however much they may resemble your own, are probably not the best things to recycle.

Though I usually tend to "air" on the side of caution, I must dare to use a cliché – keep up the great work, Brooks!

Yours,
—The BM