



# THE TORCH

## The Brooks College Newsletter

September 12, 2008

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### This is Only the Beginning



**Emilie Moore**  
*Editor*

We are three weeks into school, and everyone is settling into some sort of pattern. Many of you are taking it all in, trying to become accustomed to college life. The hope is that in time, each of you feels at home here. It seems fitting then to reflect on one of the most incredible collegiate feats, that which we call Welcome Week.

Among the many things that meet new students at Baylor are hundreds of students lurking outside residence halls who hide your possessions away in what you hope is your room, somewhere inside the maze of a new building. Next, you run into some mild bureaucracy as you fill out papers and receive some vital items for survival at college. Then it is time to start moving in, meet your roommates and your CL, and try to figure out how you get to the SUB from here.

Of course, right in the middle of all of this, you are called away to an

enormous gathering of your class. Here, you meet your small group and its leaders, who have been intensely trained to welcome you to your new home away from home. They are probably as apprehensive as you are, hoping that everyone will get along and that you'll like them.

You get to know each other, and then it's off to bed. Hopefully you get enough sleep because the next day brings chaos galore. Activities have been packed into your schedule, and you think they're cool but you'd really just like to chill for a while.

Very likely, everyone around you is thinking the same, but you press on. You learn about your favorite school ever, and you learn about your importance here, among other things. You begin to form connections with your group, and perhaps your perspective changes just a very little bit.

You share the story of your life with your new friends, and finally you have a chance to put some closure on a very demanding, possibly emotional, and certainly educational mini-week. You may have wondered why Welcome Week was so hyperactive, and there are many reasons.

But one very important reason is something I learned during my first week here. Had I arrived with no one

invading my personal space, demanding to know my name, or listening attentively to my story, I may have lost interest in the great place that is Baylor. But that was not the case; I was never alone and had no time to myself. Instead, I was greeted with love and enthusiasm, and then taken on a wild ride that seemed to last far longer than a few days. I was forced to make friends, which made it easier for me to branch out later on. I had never felt so welcomed in my life, and that was the point.

So welcome to Brooks, Baylor's oldest residential college. You are here for a reason: this is where you belong. One amazing aspect of Brooks is that we all come from different backgrounds and perspectives, and our personalities are infinitely diverse, as are our interests. Some of us arrived at Brooks this year in the calm before the storm, and some of us came with that storm. And yet, we have so much in common and so much to gain from each other's company.

Whether you are returning or experiencing the College for the first time, you are an important part of this community. We are together in this adventure; please journey with us.

### Top 10 Sic 'Em Alternatives

- |                |                    |
|----------------|--------------------|
| 10. Bite 'em!  | 5. Bathe 'em!      |
| 9. Maul 'em!   | 4. Bless 'em!      |
| 8. Digest 'em! | 3. Hibernate 'em!  |
| 7. Lick 'em!   | 2. [Bear] hug 'em! |
| 6. Chew 'em!   | 1. Torch 'em!      |





# Fine Arts Forecast

Anson Jablinski  
Staff Writer

*September 12 – September 25*

The Fine Arts Forecast is a list of all the concerts, art shows, and theater productions that feature Baylor student artists (plus the current exhibitions of the Martin Museum of Art and the Waco Symphony concerts). If you want an event to be listed here, feel free to email me and I'll add it in the next Torch.



## **Jazz Ensemble**

Big Band Swing Concert  
Friday, September 12th at 7:30pm  
in Jones Hall (McCrary Music  
Building). \$5 tickets.

## **Symphonic Band and Wind Ensemble**

Thursday, September 18th at  
7:30pm in Jones Hall. Free admis-  
sion.



## **Waco Symphony**

With 15-year old guest violinist Shan-  
non Lee. Thursday, September 25th at  
7:30 pm in Waco Hall. Student tickets  
are \$5 at the door.

## **Martin Museum of Art**

Current exhibitions: Gallery I – Al  
Souza, works on paper; Gallery II –  
Blair Meerfeld and John Tilton, ceram-  
ics. On display through October 11th.  
Free admission. Check online ([www.baylor.edu/martinmuseum](http://www.baylor.edu/martinmuseum)) for museum  
hours and more information.

## The Torch would like to announce the following...



**For the Freshmen:** In the next issue of Brooks College's newsletter, we would love to print your story. What is the Freshman Experience? What have been your challenges so far? Who or what has helped you along the way? We want to know who you are, where you've come from, and what are your dreams. If you have something to say, send an email straightaway to [Brooks.Torch@gmail.com](mailto:Brooks.Torch@gmail.com) and let us know!



**For All:** Do you think you have what it takes to show Baylor spirit? Send us your most spirited photograph, involving you or at least something that exudes Baylor-ness. We'll publish the ones that really make us catch the Baylor fever. Send your photos to [Brooks.Torch@gmail.com](mailto:Brooks.Torch@gmail.com) by Friday, September 19 for a chance at Brooks College fame!



## Handing out the Torch since Fall 2007

Emilie Moore.....Editor  
Anson Jablinski.....Staff Writer  
Chase Kanaly.....Staff Writer  
Justin Ross.....Artist

We'd love for you to join the Torch team! If you have any interest in writing, photography, or other useful skills, please consider contributing. No former background is required. Please contact us at **[Brooks.Torch@gmail.com](mailto:Brooks.Torch@gmail.com)**

# [Hey You!]

Movie Night on the Quad, Brooks Backs the Bears, worship services, Senior Book Ceremony, May Ball, Christmas at Brooks, Brookstravaganza...

This is just a taste of what you can bring about when you participate in a Brooks committee. Committees rock. That is to say, they are the foundation of the Brooks spirit. Here, the students can voice their interests, desires, and hopes for our community; each committee embraces ideas and helps you bring them to life. Committees are student-run and open to all of Brooks, and your contribution is absolutely welcome and positively voluntary. Here's an overview of each:

**Campus Life** (Campers) is Brooks' connection to Baylor. They work to facilitate that interaction, in order to create a strong rapport that will work to the advantage of each. This way, we can keep in touch with the rest of campus and be true Baylor Bears. Activities include the football tailgates, theatre shows, intramurals, and other campus events.  
L\_Hardy@baylor.edu, Mike\_Bailey@baylor.edu

**Community and Traditions** (ComTrad) aspires to preserve Brooks' traditions and community through social events and established ceremonies. We also encourage creativity and inventiveness in implementing new traditions. Just as S.P. Brooks handed the torch to us, we seek to kindle the flame and keep it alive for the next generation of Brooks residents. Such opportunities include Fall Formal, the Tree Planting Ceremony, and giving guided tours of the College.  
Jennifer\_Atwood@baylor.edu, Tyler\_Walton@baylor.edu

**Ministry and Service** (SerMin) exists to promote the spiritual life and purpose of the College, to provide opportunities for charitable endeavours, and to serve as encouragement for every individual. We want to see each person connected. The scope is both local and global, and focused on God's kingdom. Our goals are best reached through constant action, such as the prayer team and praise band, sponsoring a child, and ministering on a personal level.  
Emilie\_Moore@baylor.edu, J\_Ross@baylor.edu

**The Academic Committee** (Acatak) enhances the common intellect of Brooks College. Its main priorities are maintaining the College Library and making it accessible to the all of the members of our community. The Committee also assists Dr. Henry in coordinating guest speakers and hosts some "scholarly" Brooks traditions, such as the annual "Christmas Party in the Library."  
Anson\_Jablinski@baylor.edu

## Sammy Says...

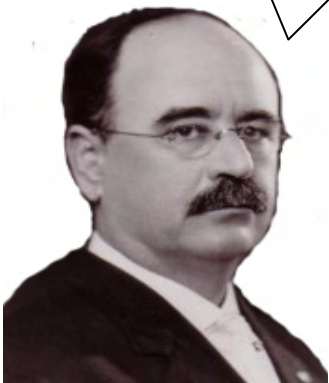
When I was your age, we had to *walk* to the Ferrell Center.

Come live the legacy that is Brooks College, and in the end we can leave a little of our own legacy behind.

{To all concerned:

The Governing Board consists of the President, Vice-President, Secretary/Treasurer, and the co-chairs who organize the four committees. The co-chairs of each committee report to the Governing Board for guidance and approval regarding the activities and plans for their committees. Got ideas? Holler at'cher co-chair! }

Compiled by the Brooks College Council



\*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'.



Photo/bv Chase Kanaly





**Chase Kanaly**  
*Staff Writer*



Photo by Chase Kanaly

The Art Briles era for the 2008 Baylor Bear football program officially kicked off Thursday Evening, August 28th. Unfortunately for the Bears, the #23 ranked Wake Forest Demon Deacons stood in their way. Two early Wake Forest touchdowns put the Bears in an 14-0 hole. Enter True Freshman Robert Griffin, who replaced Senior transfer Kirby Freeman, who had been ineffective for the first quarter. Griffin's ability to both pass and run electrified Floyd Casey Stadium.

On the Bears' following drive, Griffin scampered for a big gain that would later end up on SportsCenter's Top 10 Plays of the Day. A few plays later it was Griffin again running up the middle, putting Baylor within a score of the Demon Deacons. Wake Forest added two field goals before the end of the half, and went to the locker room with a 20-6 lead.

Down just 14, the Baylor defense gave the offense a real chance to cut into the lead. Moments later Baylor gave the ball back to Wake Forest

on another turnover. This proved to be a turning point in the game, as Wake Forest put up three more touchdowns; however, Baylor could only manage one more score, a touchdown by running back Jacoby Jones. While the score was clearly lopsided, Robert Griffin's ability to spark the team could prove to be the catalyst for this team as he continues to mature.

The second game of the season pitted the Baylor Bears against the Demons of Northwestern State. Before the game, roughly 90 Brooks College residents took part in the First Ever Tailgate. Brooks freshman Zach Stover explained how numerous residents were decked out in face paint. The game was Baylor "domination" from the opening kickoff. The scoring came early and often.

Robert Griffin connected with wide receiver Ernest Smith for 49 yards, and the first passing touchdown of his Baylor career. Running back Jay Finley followed with a 40 yard run, putting the Bears up 13-0. A field goal and another Baylor

touchdown led Baylor to its highest scoring first quarter in a decade. The Baylor defense was great, giving up 190 yards for the entire game, and allowing only 6 points. Robert Griffin finished the day with two more touchdown passes over 30 yards, the first ever Baylor quarterback to perform such a feat.

In response to Griffin's four touchdown performance, sophomore Tucker Shields can already tell a lot about him only two games into the season. "Watching him [Griffin] you know that he just has it. Something you can't describe that is a very rare gift, but just watching him you know he has that special gift."

Overall he had 294 yards of passing, in addition to 42 yards rushing with a touchdown. Running back Jay Finley concluded the finest performance of his career with three touchdowns and 91 yards. Late in the fourth quarter Kirby Freeman concluded the Baylor onslaught with a touchdown pass of his own. The final score: Bears 51, Demons 6. Baylor has plenty of momentum to carry with them to this week's game against Washington State.



Photo by Chase Kanaly

But blessed are those who trust in the Lord,  
whose confidence is in Him.

They will be like a tree planted by the water that sends out its roots by the stream. It does not fear when heat comes; its leaves are always green. It has no worries in a year of drought and never fails to bear fruit.

- Jeremiah 17:7-8



Please recycle me!

# CL Spotlight

Rachael Sorosky

Learn about your CLs!



**Floor 3D**  
Senior, International Studies major,  
Spanish minor

**Home:** Hamilton, NY  
**Activities:** Latin Dance Society, Golden Key,  
King's Club, Antioch Community Church  
**Likes:** Indian food, being alone in nature, and  
dance as a structured art form



## September Birthdays

Rachael Sorosky  
Sarah Winter  
Kate Sutton  
Jacquelyn Young  
Lindsey Turner  
Taylor Follis  
Bill Dunker  
Andrea Roth  
Grace Kim  
Tamanda Langehaug  
Sabrina Wood  
Chase Kanaly  
George Whybrow  
Emanuel Gawrieh  
Shenay Sansoucic  
Hunter Barrett  
Brittany Weldon  
Eleanor Keeling  
Elizabeth Burgess  
Ethan Tang  
Maria Knorr  
Nicole Matimba  
Nathaniel Fischer  
Natalie Rosato  
Lauren Sikes  
Aaron Wood  
Emily Anne Moore  
Kinsey Blalock  
Justin Oxford  
Kristyn Ferguson  
Nicholas Erickson  
Dustin Safley

**Dislikes:** Beets, people who pick on the underdog, and having to shave

**Fun Facts:** Her elbows bend backwards. She has jumped off cliffs and waterfalls in Oregon, and has snowboarded in Inter-laken, Switzerland.

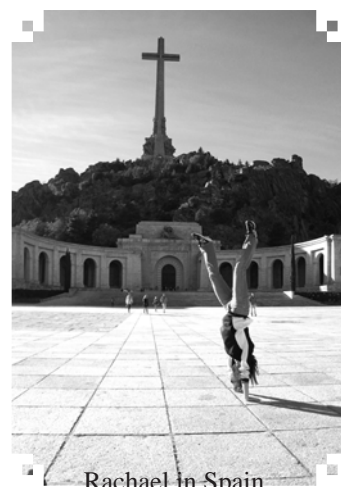
**Purpose as a CL:** "To get to know my girls and find out where I can make the biggest impact." Rachael doesn't want to be the 'ultimate' CL, but to be a real person living with her residents. This year, she has a more laid-back style than previously, because she has learned that details don't matter in the end. "I see my position in a bigger picture than before. And I'm just concerned about eternal value."

**Why Brooks?** "I believed in the philosophy of community, the idea of purposefully creating community." She remembers this trait of the former Brooks Hall, which, because of its residents, held an inner strength and unity, and a sense of belonging. They created memories by doing things together – sometimes crazy things. Rachael mentions that the *people* were Brooks, not the building, and they held a loyalty to each other.

**Ambitions:** To live in a third world country such as Colombia, working with demobilized child soldiers and at-risk children.

**What is one of the best parts of the CL experience?** Finding great friends in other CLs. "My freshman year, I didn't meet people, but when I became a CL I found people like me in the same place." Rachael has met some of the best friends of her life through her time as a Community Leader.

**Extra tidbit:** Rachael's birthday is September 20th. Wish her well when you see her!



Rachael in Spain



Snowboarding in the Swiss Alps

## Need Prayer?

The Brooks Prayer Team meets weekly to pray for requests from the College and beyond. If you have a request, send an email to **Brooksprayer@gmail.com**. As brothers and sisters in faith, we desire to constantly lift each other up and be an encouragement to one another. So let us know how to pray!

## Praise Band Auditions [September 18-20]

Wanted: Brooks residents who can sing or play an instrument, interested in leading worship at and around Brooks. Sign up in the audition binder in JCR.  
Contact: JohnMark\_Lowry@baylor.edu or Andy\_Rose@baylor.edu



# 7 Years Later... September 11th in Perspective



Chase Kanaly  
Staff Writer

“America, America, God Shed His Grace on Thee”; “God Bless America, Land that I Love”; “...From Sea to Shining Sea”; “...Home of the Brave!” These songs resonated in the hearts of Americans for many days and months following. On the morning of September 11, 2001, I prepared for another day of seventh grade. Since my parents were out of town, I was up before dawn, ready to take on the day.

As I walked into my second class of the day, Pre-Algebra, the loud speaker came on. Our principal, Nadine Fidler, said something to the effect of, “For those of you who don’t know, there has been a terrorist attack on our nation; both World Trade Centers in New York City and the Pentagon have been hit by planes.” Instantly, I felt sick to my stomach

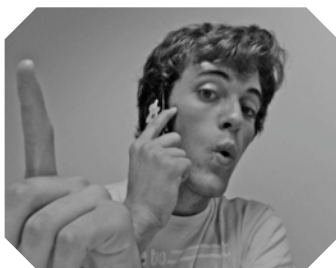
for those lives that might be lost in this tragedy.

It continued to break my heart, as I saw other parents coming and picking up their kids, while my parental units were in California. In the coming days, it was discovered that over 3,000 lives were lost. Yet, out of this horrendous act, our country responded with such patriotism and passion for our country! For a while we were one -- “United We Stood!” as led by the members of United Flight #93, who overtook the terrorist, and took up the fight to protect the values that our country loves so much.

So as another day passes, as you read this article, stop... think, and remember just how blessed we are to live in such a free nation. Whether or not you support some of the war efforts or administrative officials, we owe a great deal of gratitude to the men and women who day by day put their lives

on the line to protect our freedom.

Remember the events of September 11, 2001, as a day that unified America. It is now affectionately known as Patriot Day for a reason; keep that in mind.



Justin Ross  
Cartoonist

Do you have something you’d like to be shown in the Torch? Announcements, information, photographs, classifieds... deep, probing questions? Do you have news for us? Or perhaps suggestions? Email us and show us what you’ve got!

## TorchToons

