



THE TORCH

The Brooks College Newsletter

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Alex Tworowski
Staff Writer

[Getting Lost]

Not too long ago, I had a phone conversation with a friend. At the start of the conversation, he told me that he was going to talk to me for approximately five minutes because he had to attend to a matter. I agreed to hang up in five minutes, and then we proceeded with our conversation.

As we talked, we began to dig into each other's lives and share our struggles and the things that God was teaching us. It became a time of sharpening each other's character (Prov. 27:17) and bearing each other's burdens (Gal. 6:2).

The conversation was enjoyable and enlightening to the extent that we lost track of the time. When we were about to hang up, we discovered that we had been talking for over half an hour.

This story is a basic example of time spent with Jesus. Have you ever spent time with Him in prayer or in His Word and lost track of time? I recall occa-

sions when I was so caught up in the presence of God that I did not realize how much time went by my perception. I would be praying, studying His Word, or simply being still before God, and I would find myself on different "paths" within Him.

I would begin to tell Him about different things, be led to different and exciting passages of Scripture, or would simply enjoy resting in Him. David knew this experience when he said to the Lord, "In Your presence is fullness of joy" (Psalm 16:11).

The presence of God is not only a place of delight, but also a place of conviction. When Isaiah stood before the Lord and saw Him in His glory, he was convicted of his sinfulness. He immediately confessed, "Woe is me, for I am ruined! Because I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips; for my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts" (Isaiah 6:5).

The glory and the Spirit of God had revealed to Isaiah his iniquity before Holy God. He realized that he was not worthy to stand before the King.

Where there is conviction, there is confession, and where there is confession, there is cleansing. Following Isaiah's repentant confession, a seraph took a burning coal from the altar of God and touched it to Isaiah's lips, thereby taking away his iniquity and atoning for his sin (vv.6-7).

"If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness" (1 John 1:9). God calls us to call out to Him. As we draw near to Him, Jesus removes those sin barriers that keep us from drawing near.

God starts with a call to us to draw near to Him and ends with a call to draw others near to Him. God called Isaiah to His presence, convicted him of his sin, led him to confession, cleansed him, and commissioned him to call others (sorry about the excessive alliteration!).

In verses 9 and 10 of the same passage, God commands Isaiah to proclaim His words to

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His people. He says that they will either resist listening to His rebuke or consider their ways and return to Him. As called and sanctified ambassadors of Christ, we must call out to the world, "Be reconciled to God!"

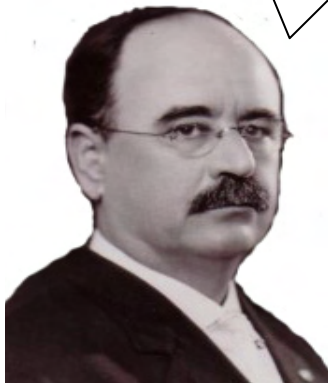
If you couldn't tell, the presence of God has devastating effects upon our ways of life. We are awed and humbled by His holiness, impressed by the Holy Spirit to repent of our wick-

edness, no matter how "insignificant", cleansed and forgiven by the sacred lifeblood of Jesus Christ and the infinite grace of God, and commissioned by the King to proclaim His call to Himself to the world. I suppose that's why Jesus wants us to lose our lives for His sake.

When was the last time you got lost in the presence of God? Make the Lord your refuge and your dwelling place (Psalm 91:9). After all, the best place to get lost is in the Way.

Sammy Says...

*Don't even think
about walking
by without
acknowledging me.*



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'.

January Birthdays!

1.1 Kathleen Zaccaro
1.2 Clare Gasper
1.6 Courtney Albin
1.7 Lauren Zwart
1.7 Elissa Nevarez
1.9 Ashley Connelly
1.11 Andrea Pena
1.12 Kailey Rawson
1.14 Tarsis Palacios
1.14 Jennifer Lowery
1.15 Jonathan Coffield
1.15 Lacy McKinney

1.16 Ashlan Juby
1.17 Ty Craig
1.18 Emily Jessup
1.19 John Mark Lowry
1.19 Lauren Guy
1.22 Isaac Trevino
1.24 Dominique Meek
1.27 Jonathan Simpson
1.27 Megan Burleson
1.30 Ben Hernandez
1.30 Denise Durany
1.31 Alex Tworkowski

[Don't forget]

Brooks has its own tutoring program!

You can sign up to give help to others,
or contact a volunteer to receive help.

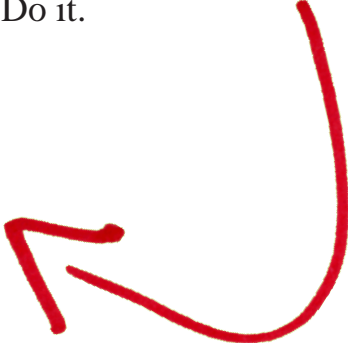
Just check the binder at the Front Desk!





Insert residents'
announcements
here

Brooks! Are you in an organization that has an event coming up soon? Do you have announcements to make? Let your community know - send it in to brooks.torch@gmail.com and tell it to the world. Do it.



Need Prayer?

The Brooks Prayer Team meets daily 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! Also, if you are interested in joining, please do. The team is open to all. For more information, email us!

The Community Needs You!

If you're interested in meeting other great people, contributing to the community that supports you, and/or making Brooks even better, why not stop by a committee meeting this next week? You can join any time, so visit and find the one that fits you!

Community and Traditions	Wednesdays	9:00	Seminar Room
Academics	Every other Sunday	4:00	Library
Campus Life	Mondays	8:00	Seminar Room
Ministry and Service	Sundays	5:00	Seminar Room

Handing out the Torch since Fall 2007

Anson Jablinski.....Staff Writer
Chase Kanaly.....Staff Writer
Christian Latham.....Staff Writer
Brittany Hardy.....Staff Writer
Andrew Hwang.....Cartoonist
Alex Tworkowski.....Staff Writer

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**

Emilie Moore.....Editor



Men's Basketball

Game 10: December 20, 2008- Home

#21 Baylor	79	High Points: Curtis Jerrells - 29
Texas-Arlington	76	High Boards: Kevin Rogers- 13
		High Assists: Curtis Jerrells - 7

Game 11: December 22, 2008- Home

#21 Baylor	74	High Points: Curtis Jerrells - 17
Hartford	59	High Boards: Curtis Jerrells - 11
		High Assists: Curtis Jerrells - 10

Game 12: December 29, 2008 - Home

#19 Baylor	79	High Points: LaceDarius Dunn - 22
Portland State	66	High Boards: Rogers, Jerrells, Dunn - 6
		High Assists: Dugat & Carter - 5

Game 13: December 31, 2008- Home

#19 Baylor	113	High Points: Kevin Rogers - 21
Jackson State	78	High Boards: LaceDarius Dunn - 10
		High Assists: Tweety Carter - 6

Game 14: January 2, 2009- Home

#19 Baylor	85	High Points: Curtis Jerrells - 22
South Carolina	84	High Boards: Kevin Rogers - 13
		High Assists: Curtis Jerrells - 10

Game 15: January 10, 2009- Home

#23 Baylor	73	High Points: LaceDarius Dunn - 20
Texas Tech	61	High Boards: Kevin Rogers - 14
		High Assists: Tweety Carter - 5

Game 16: January 14, 2009- Away

#21 Baylor	73	High Points: Tweety Carter - 16
Texas A&M	84	High Boards: Kevin Rogers - 7
		High Assists: Henry Dugat - 2

Game 17: January 17, 2009- Home

#21 Baylor	98	High Points: Curtis Jerrells - 31
Oklahoma State	92	OT High Boards: Quincy Acy - 12
		High Assists: Curtis Jerrells - 10

Game 18: January 21, 2009- Away

#23 Baylor	83	High Points: LaceDarius Dunn - 33
Kansas State	65	High Boards: Kevin Rogers - 10
		High Assists: Tweety Carter - 8

Baylor Men's Record: 15-3 (3-1 Conference)

Lady Bears Basketball

Game 11: December 16, 2008- Home

#7 Baylor	73	High Points: Danielle Wilson - 23
TX-Pan American	27	High Boards: Danielle Wilson - 11
		High Assists: Kelli Griffin - 6

Game 12: December 20, 2008 - Away

#7 Baylor	81	High Points: Jessica Morrow - 21
Oregon	71	High Boards: Danielle Wilson - 11
		High Assists: Jhasmin Player - 4

Game 13: January 3, 2009 - Home

#7 Baylor	95	High Points: Danielle Wilson - 26
Texas State	55	High Boards: Jhasmin Player - 8
		High Assists: Jhasmin Player - 6

Game 14: January 10, 2009- Away

#5 Baylor	63	High Points: Danielle Wilson - 16
Colorado	50	High Boards: Jhasmin Player - 8
		High Assists: Kelli Griffin - 4

Game 15: January 14, 2009- Home

#5 Baylor	68	High Points: Danielle Wilson - 18
#20 Iowa State	57	High Boards: Danielle Wilson - 10
		High Assists: Kelli Griffin - 4

Game 16: January 17, 2009- Home

#5 Baylor	75	High Points: Melissa Jones - 18
#22 Oklahoma State	57	High Boards: Wilson - 12
		High Assists: Danielle Wilson-3

Game 17: January 21, 2009- Away

#4 Baylor	64	High Points: Morghan Medlock-17
Texas A&M	61	High Boards: Danielle Wilson - 10
		High Assists: Kelli Griffin - 6

Lady Bears Record: 16-1 (4-0 Conference)

[CL Spotlight]

Jennifer Groves

Learn about your Community Leaders!

Floor: 3K

Junior, Communications Specialist Major (half FDM + half Speech Communications), Religion Minor

Home: I have had 14 residencies, 13 of which all fall in the Arlington, TX borders.

Activities: I now go to Antioch which fills my week with Life Group, Dwelling Place, and starting next week Discipleship group. I love watching movies and good television (why I have the film side of my degree). I also enjoy reading books, listening to music and really good conversation.



Likes: Coldplay, a good joke, tennis, an ice-cold Dr. Pepper

Dislikes: spiders and people who say appropo and quote Boethius

Fun Facts: I am going to be the first sibling to graduate in my family (and I am not the oldest). I have never been to the ocean, but plan to see it when I go to New York in March. Lastly, I was going to attend George Mason University as a University Scholar up until May 28th. Jonathan Evans, an admissions counselor here at Baylor, was the one who got me back into Baylor along with finding my financial aid.

Purpose as a CL: I first wanted to be a CL as a sort of missionary. Help those who already knew God fall more in love with him and possibly share my love of God with someone who hadn't known it before. Now, I realize I am here to help in any way I can. I try my best to build an even smaller community within the Brooks community on my hall. Through that, God can work in any way He chooses. I am just lucky enough to see and experience it. Also my first CL was such an amazing person to turn to my freshman year, and I thought I could do well to be as available to my girls as she was for me.

Why did you choose Brooks? As I am sure most will say, I didn't really get to choose Brooks; however, I truly did want Brooks from the very beginning. I love the idea of creating a smaller community within the Baylor community that is focused so much on bettering its members in all areas of life. Also, it seems Brooks has attracted a great group of people, and I would be disappointed were I not able to see these folks practically every day. Brooks was chosen for me by people.

Dreams and Ambitions: I am still working on that with God. I have too many ideas of what I think God wants. I love serving people, and I love film. If I can find a way to combine those two in one job, that would be amazing. My ambition for the next year is to complete my screenplay. Also, I want to travel the world sharing the gospel and one day live in Chicago (I went last May and loved the city).

What is one of the best parts of the CL experience? I just love all the people that I have met through this job. CL&L has done a great job of hiring excellent people. Being a CL also gives me an excuse to meet people living in Brooks. As a WOO, that is by far one of my favorite things.

“Jennifer is the type of person who is always fun to be around because she takes interest in everything you have to say.”

--- Andy Rose, 2nd Floor CL



[Poignant Paradox]

Like everyone else, I began the week with a measure of anticipation. After all, it came bearing the promise of extraordinary significance. Monday marked the commemoration of the iconic life and legacy of American hero Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., who gave his life in the service of the civil rights movement. We celebrated his triumph of justice, all the while watching as Barack Obama, then President-elect, made his way by train from Illinois to Washington, D.C. along the same historic route that first delivered Abraham Lincoln to the presidency.

Tuesday brought with it the groundbreaking inauguration of the 44th President of the United States, an act which by its very nature represented hope and possibility to many millions of Americans. President Obama, standing at the precipice from atop the shoulders of American giants, appealed to the nation that we be faithful “not to our easy instincts but to our better angels.”

Wednesday passed with big headlines about the President’s first day in office. With little more than a backward glance at the Bush administration, President Obama set off at an aggressive pace. The reports came of intentions to close Guantánamo Bay, to restore diplomatic relations, and to save our ailing economy. With only three days down, the week was flying by with brilliant speed.

Then came Thursday, and with the question of life itself at hand, I am wondering where all our better angels have gone? January 22,

2009 marks the 36th anniversary of *Roe v. Wade*, the landmark Supreme Court decision overturning or altering abortion restrictions issued by an overwhelming majority of states.

The decision pronounced that a mother may abort a pregnancy any time before the fetus is considered “viable”. A child which is not yet considered viable, or “potentially able to live outside the mother’s womb,” is loosely defined as being within the first trimester of pregnancy. Since then, nearly 50 million babies have been aborted.

The case brought before the Court argued that a woman’s right to privacy, implicit within the Ninth and Fourteenth Amendments to the Constitution, is violated when the state imposes restrictions regarding her choice to terminate a pregnancy. Although the case was very complex, and morally troubling, a clear majority of justices voted in favor of the plaintiff Jane Roe.

Then associate justice William Rehnquist wrote the minority opinion (statement of dissent) in which he rightly outlines that “the Due Process Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment undoubtedly does place a limit, albeit a broad one, on legislative power to enact laws such as [abortion controls].”

However, Rehnquist asserts, “the Court’s sweeping invalidation of any restrictions on abortion during the first trimester is impossible to justify under that standard, and the conscious weighing of competing factors that the Court’s opinion apparently substitutes for



Christian Latham
Staff Writer

the established test is far more appropriate to a legislative judgment than to a judicial one.”

Since then, Jane Roe, now known openly by name as Norma McCorvey, has changed her opinion and come out as a pro-life advocate. “I would like to see children stop being killed and women maimed and dead themselves” McCorvey said in an interview. If the very woman originally responsible for the abortion rights movement has changed her mind, then perhaps the hope remains that the High Court will reverse its decision.

The problem, however, is progressive. According to the White House Agenda, “President Obama understands that abortion is a divisive issue, and respects those who disagree with him. However, he has been a consistent champion of reproductive choice and will make preserving women’s rights under *Roe v. Wade* a priority in his Administration.” Apparently in the name of freedom and equality, “he opposes any constitutional amendment to overturn the Supreme Court’s decision in that case.”

While I wish the President well, and look to him as my Commander in Chief for leadership and resolve, I sincerely hope that either his faith or his humanity, whichever comes first, is enough to convince him

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that no child, born or unborn, is disposable.

After all, pregnancy was never intended to be a nine month trial period at parenthood where you can simply relinquish responsibility when you opt out. The ferocious support of abortion, an act which represents little more than infanticide, is perhaps telling of a greater societal decay in which no person is held individually responsible for their own actions. Depression and lasting emotional scars are common in women who have had abortions, but worse still, innocent human lives are extinguished.

So now we remember Dr. Martin Luther King, the man whom we honored just a few days ago for his commitment to the value of life, regardless of gender, creed, or color. His memory serves to outline an inconsistency in our society where we will celebrate justice for one group and balk at justice, at the chance to even live, for another.

King stood for the voiceless, inspiring a generation to do not what is safe, nor what is expedient, but instead what is right. Today the voiceless are the unborn, the poignant paradox endures.

[TorchJoons]

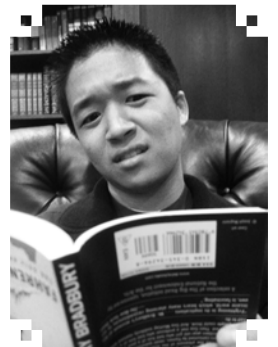
A somewhat semi-lesson or review type thing in basic but kind of fake yet still a hint of being real philosophy.

"Change in all things is sweet."
- Aristotle (384-322 B.C.)

Argument: Texas weather changes... not so sweet.



Andrew Hwang
Cartoonist



[For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.]

[2 Timothy 1:7]

[Appreciation: Project Brooks College]

Expense Account

Data compiled by Chase Kanaly[!]

Cost of a 4 Person Suite at Brooks College	\$2,447.00
+ 11 Meals a Week Service (Minimum)	\$1,665.25
Total (2 semesters)	\$8,224.50
Total (1 semester)	\$4,112.25
Total (Weekly)	\$249.23
Total (Day)	\$35.60
Total (Hour)	\$1.48
Total (Minute)	\$0.0247
Total (Seconds)	\$0.00041

*Buyer's Notice: Enjoy every second of living at Brooks

**Cost does not include textbooks, relationships, trips to the vending machine, etc.

***I was trying to do Accounting homework (sorry, Professor Jones)

**** Price is not applicable to Community Leaders

***** Finally, no Brooks students will not be given any discount for any time they are not using Brooks College appropriately

