A New President
Dr. Charles Pollard begins a new chapter in JBU’s history

Photos of Homecoming and the Presidential Inauguration

Legal Golden Eagle alumna Myriah Jordan helps write Iraqi law

Winter 2004/2005
Dear Alumni and Friends of JBU,

The morning breeze has turned crisp and cool here on campus, a seasonal reminder that marks for me the end of my first 100 days as president of John Brown University. These past few months have been exhilarating as I have come to learn more about the history, people, and momentum of JBU. I am honored to be asked to serve as the sixth president, and I remain dependent upon God for wisdom and leadership to carry out this sacred trust.

I have most of all enjoyed the informal conversations with students over the last several months, from hearing about the adventures of dorm life over lunch in the “Caf” to listening to the stories of an Advance Program cohort at a banquet. Consistently, I hear about the ways in which God is at work amongst the students at JBU. Students tell of peers who pray for and support them as they face difficult personal challenges. They tell of friendships formed through hard work, laughter, and Christian love. They speak with conviction about developing and using their skills to serve Christ and others.

It is a privilege and a great encouragement to hear these stories, for they testify to the fact that the mission of JBU continues to be fulfilled. Indeed, one of the highest compliments that we received regarding the inauguration (story on page 8) was from the University of Arkansas representative. He said, “I knew John Brown University had a Christian tradition, but I didn’t realize the current level of commitment. I was touched by the extent to which it was evident throughout the ceremony.”

May JBU continue to be a place characterized by “Christ Over All” both in our public ceremonies and our students’ lives.

God-speed,
Chip

John Brown University’s mission is to provide a Christ-centered higher education which contributes dynamically to the intellectual, spiritual, and occupational effectiveness of men and women in God-honoring living and service.
from the editor

In case you haven’t noticed, JBU is changing. A lot. In the past five years, JBU has added more students, new buildings, new programs, and new classroom locations across Arkansas. It’s exciting to see the JBU community embracing its responsibility to become the very best Christian university it can be for today’s students.

There are a few changes at JBU that you should know about in particular as alumni. First, we have a new president at JBU. In his first few months, President Pollard has demonstrated a sincere interest in students, respect for the rich heritage of JBU, and a passion to advance JBU’s mission. You can begin to know him for yourself by reading the feature story on page 9 and his inaugural speech, which is included in a special insert in the center of this magazine.

Another important change is the addition of a new director of alumni and parent relations, Jerry Rollene ’75. Jerry has some great ideas for reaching out to you, JBU alumni, but he’d like to have your help to better understand your thoughts and needs. On page 26, you’ll find a survey asking for your valuable input. Please take a moment to complete it and return it to him. If you prefer, you can submit your answers online at www.jbu.edu/alumni/survey/2004.

Finally, as you flip through the Brown Bulletin, you might notice some changes here, too. New design elements, new departments, a new angle for feature stories. Hopefully, these changes are for the better, but we won’t know unless you tell us. If you’re inspired, frustrated, pleased, confused, or if you simply have ideas for stories or improvements to the magazine, we want to hear it. Send an e-mail to me at aphillips@jbu.edu, or send a letter to JBU, attention: AndreaPhillips.

C. S. Lewis wrote about the necessity for change in the Christian life, saying, “We are like eggs at present. And you cannot go on indefinitely being just an ordinary, decent egg. We must be hatched or go bad.” Thankfully, JBU has been hatching and maturing throughout its history to become the university it is today. In essence, it has remained the same, educating students, faculty, and diversity employees is vital in this position,” Rollene said.

Before coming to JBU, Rollene worked as a business consultant and business owner. “The director of alumni and parent relations is a very important position at JBU.” Jim Kralik, vice president of university advancement, said. “Jerry brings a wealth of skills, knowledge, and experience that will be valuable to the position.”

Jerry and his wife, Donna (Petersen) Rollene ’77, have three daughters, Becky, Jessie, and Olivia. You can reach Jerry in the alumni office at (479) 524-7212 or jrollene@jbu.edu.

JBU Career Network Up and Running

The Parent/Alumni Career Network is online and ready to offer career help to JBU students and alumni. The JBU Career Development Center, in partnership with the alumni office, has been working for the past year on ways to bring the extended JBU family together to help one another with job related issues. This network will allow JBU alumni and the parents of JBU students to offer support to graduating JBU students by sharing knowledge, opportunities, and encouragement.

If you would like to help someone in your career field or someone looking for employment in your region, sign-up online at www.jbu.edu/alumni. The online form will allow you to decide your level of involvement in the JBU/Parent/Alumni Career Network.

We encourage you to consider supporting these students as they enter the work world and search for ways to further God’s Kingdom.

JBU in Focus

President Pollard cuts the ribbon for Fort Smith.

Rolle is New Director of Alumni & Parent Relations

After serving JBU as a regional development director for nearly a year, Jerry Rollene ’75 was selected to be the Director of Alumni and Parent Relations in August. Rollene is responsible for creating and maintaining programs for alumni and parents. He also acts as a facilitator for the Alumni Board and Parents Council.

“Continuing to build a sense of community and lasting relationships among alumni, students, faculty, and diversity employees is vital in this position,” Rollene said.

Before coming to JBU, Rollene worked as a business consultant and business owner. “The director of alumni and parent relations is a very important position at JBU,” Jim Kralik, vice president of university advancement, said. “Jerry brings a wealth of skills, knowledge, and experience that will be valuable to the position.”

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JBU Advance and Graduate Programs Expand in Fort Smith

JBU hosted a ribbon cutting ceremony and alumni event at JBU’s newly expanded and remodeled Fort Smith Educational Center in October. The Fort Smith center recently doubled in size due to continued enrollment growth in JBU’s graduate and degree completion programs in the expansion added three new classrooms.

“These new classrooms will allow us to expand our program offerings in Fort Smith,” Phillip Beatty, JBU’s Fort Smith director said. “Students are enjoying the fresh, open atmosphere of the new space.”

JBU first offered classes in the Advance Program, JBU’s adult degree completion program, in Fort Smith in 1994 at St. Edward Mercy Medical Center. In fall 2001, JBU purchased the building to relocate the Fort Smith center to its current location.

Currently, JBU’s graduate and Advance Program enrollment in Fort Smith is 175 students.

Graduate courses in counseling, business administration, and leadership and ethics are offered at the Fort Smith center in addition to all Advance Program courses for the business information systems and organizational management programs.

JBU Boasts Lowest Student Default Rate in Arkansas

John Brown University’s student loan default rate was recently calculated at 0.7%, the lowest of all four-year colleges and universities in Arkansas. Out of 392 JBU graduates who took out school loans and who entered repayment status in the fiscal year 2002, only three defaulted on their loans.

Of other colleges and universities in Arkansas, those with default rates

Promise Keepers is coming to Northwest Arkansas. Are you?

June 10-11, 2005

JBU has accommodations available on campus for the Promise Keepers weekend. Contact the Alumni Office for information and to make reservations.

888-JBU-ALUM (888-528-2586) alumni@jbu.edu

JBU Leads Worldwide Cyber-Learning Experience

Clasping cups of tea and notebooks, students in this summer’s JBU Northern Ireland International Business Studies trip defied their sleep patterns at 1:00 a.m. to participate in a unique cyber-learning opportunity. Early in the Belfast morning, Patrick Roche, former member of the Northern Ireland Legislative Assembly, lectured on the problem of Northern Ireland terrorism to JBU students and to participants in Guatemala, El Salvador, Argentina, and the U.S. via the Internet.

For the first time in JBU history, new webcam technology allowed a lecturer to broadcast in five countries at once, spanning seven time zones. From 11:00 a.m. in Northern Ireland to 7:00 p.m. in Guatemala.

Billy Stevenson, the Director of International Programs at JBU, says, “It was the very first time JBU extended such an international, virtual, live seminar. I hope that we can do it again next year, live from Northern Ireland!”

After Roche spoke, viewers in Belfast watched as Sergio Enriquez, an Associate Dean at the Universidad Francisco Marroquin in Guatemala, responded to the lecture by contrasting terrorism and the peace process in Guatemala and Northern Ireland.

Leila McNeil, a JBU student participant, noted, “I was an American in Northern Ireland, seeing someone in Guatemala respond to a lecture that we had just seen together!” McNeil went on to say, “I got to experience the world in a way I never thought possible.”

Ostrander Serves as Fulbright Scholar in Germany

Dean of Undergraduate Studies Rick Ostrander had the honor and privilege this year of being named a Fulbright Senior Scholar and teaching in Germany as part of the Fulbright Scholars Program.

“I wanted to travel, and I wanted our kids to see the world,” he said. “I want them to be exposed to other countries and cultures and to see the global perspective.”

Ostrander and his family traveled to the city of Wurzburg, Germany where Ostrander taught at the University of Wurzburg, a state school with 20,000 students.

Founded in 1946, the Fulbright Scholars Program picks 800 scholars from the United States annually in an effort to increase mutual understanding between the people of the United States and people of other countries, said Adam Meir, spokesman for the bureau of educational and cultural affairs. The program exposes college students of different countries to visiting American faculty.

“We consider this the premier scholarship program,” Meir said. “We’re looking for scholars who will be able to represent the United States overseas both professionally and on a personal basis.”

Ostrander, a 1977 JBU graduate, spent a fourth to half of the time talking to students and the other half on cultural topics such as America and German higher education.

Ostrander also had the opportunity to give lectures at events and at other universities. He was asked to give a lecture to the German American Center in Stuttgart on the fiftieth anniversary of Brown v. Board of Education.

“Part of being a Fulbright Scholar is making yourself an informal goodwill ambassador,” Ostrander said.

Ostrander’s time in Germany was not purely academic. While in Europe, he enjoyed hiking the Swiss Alps, biking in the rolling Tuscan hills, and climbing the towers of Notre Dame. He got to experience the perks of being in the Fulbright family when he and his family were invited to Berlin for the 50th anniversary of the Fulbright program in Germany.

Ostrander maintains that the family’s time traveling Europe was the most memorable part of all.

While in Berlin, Ostrander recalls, he went jogging through the city and ran along what was once the Berlin wall and through the Brandenburg gate. As he ran, it began to rain, and as the sun emerged over the Berlin Dom, a perfect rainbow framed it.

“It was a surreal and unforgettable experience,” Ostrander said.

JBU Students Win Governor’s Entrepreneur Competition

Last spring, four JBU students were awarded first place in entrepreneurial development at the Fourth Annual Governor’s Award in Arkansas. Members of the Entrepreneurial Team, seniors Matt Tice, Daniela Bucaro, Sarah Chess, and freshman Seth Malley, received a $20,000 award for their business from scratch led to his current manager for Wrigley’s Gum in Utah.

Billy Stevenson, the Director of International Programs said, “It’s encouraging to see that our students have come to realize the global perspective and are willing to pursue global opportunities that many might not have thought possible.”

A four-year schools is 5.4%. In Fayetteville has a 3.2% rate. The closest to JBU are: Harding University (1.3%), Ouachita Baptist University (2.4%), Midwestern State University (5.1%).

Many of the state schools have default rates in the double digits. The University of Arkansas in Fayetteville has a 3.2% rate. The national average default rate for all four-year schools is 5.4%.

“When we apply for college, we don’t realize the financial obligations we are assuming,” said Andrea Phillips, JBU’s director of admissions. “We are so thankful for our alumni, and we’re thankful to God for supplying their needs.”

Fulbright Scholar in Germany

The Divine Drama

By God’s Grace, Stan McKinnon

Campus Pastor

Winter 2004/2005
JBU Welcomes Charles Pollard as Sixth President

With an intense love for literature and three English degrees to prove it, Charles Pollard has turned many pages in many books. Moreover, Dr. Pollard opens a new chapter in his life story and in the life of JBU as he begins his tenure as the sixth president of John Brown University.

Dr. Pollard took the post as JBU president on July 1, 2004. One of the first things that has impressed him about JBU is the quality people that make up JBU’s faculty, staff, administration, and students. Seeing how much they love being at JBU and how committed they are to the university is encouraging, he says. “I’ve heard so many bright, committed individuals at JBU say, ‘I never thought I’d be here, but I’m confident that this is where God has me,’” Pollard said.

Pollard understands what they mean. God has brought him on an unexpected journey to John Brown University, and he couldn’t be more excited about what’s in store for this new chapter of his life.

Chapter 1
The Making of the Man

Charles “Chip” Pollard first experienced the impact of Christian higher education while earning his undergraduate degree in English from Wheaton College in Wheaton, Illinois. He went on to earn his Juris Doctor from Harvard Law School, as well as his master's and doctorate degrees in English from Oxford University and the University of Virginia, respectively.

He began his professional career practicing law with Latham & Watkins, serving as a corporate and tax associate for the international law firm in Chicago.

Though Pollard experienced success and personal growth as a lawyer, he began to realize that God’s call on his life was leading him out of the courtroom and into the classroom. “I felt a stronger call by God to teach and write and to work with 18- to 22-year-olds in an academic setting,” said Pollard, whose experience at Wheaton played a vital role in his decision to teach.

“I distinctly enjoyed and was inspired by my own undergraduate experience,” he said. “I remember sitting in a freshman literature class, listening to the lecture and realizing that I had just learned more about the nature of human beings in that class than in any sermon I’d heard.”

Pollard’s first teaching posts while he was in graduate school confirmed that his decision to make the career switch was a good one. After earning his Ph.D., he joined the English faculty at Calvin College in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

During Pollard’s second year at Calvin, someone asked him to run for a position on the school board of Ada Christian, a local Christian school. During his first board meeting, the chairman of the board resigned because of a conflict of interest, and Pollard was elected chairman of the board.

A Page Is Turned

Pollard said when he came home from the meeting that night and told his family the news, his oldest son, Chad, asked two questions. First, “Will it affect me?” and second, “Who else was running?” When his father told him no one else was running, Chad replied, “Doesn’t that tell you something about the job?”

But Pollard rose to the challenge of the job. Soon after taking the helm of the school board, he was leading the charge for a $12 million capital campaign for the school.

“The campaign was the first thing I thought about when I woke up in the morning, the thing I thought about in the car. All the planning was exhilarating for me,” Pollard said.

Pollard said the position and the experience were a great fit for his skills and his personality. “That position brought together all the things God had prepared me for,” said Pollard. “Over the three-year term that I was chairman, we started the campaign, raised the money, built the building, and moved in. It was a blast.”

Today, Pollard believes that all these experiences have been preparing him for his new role as JBU president.

Chapter 2
The Road to JBU

After several years of teaching at Calvin College, Pollard had begun to think that it might be time for a change. He first heard about the JBU presidential search from Calvin professor Ed Ericson Jr., father of JBU’s Ed Ericson III, vice president for academic affairs.

“[Even before learning about the position,] I found myself asking, ‘What’s next?’ When I heard about the presidency at JBU, my first reaction was, ‘I’m a long shot.’ But I knew enough about JBU to know that I might fit. And I thought that if it was anything like my experience at Ada Christian, it might be very rewarding,” he said.

As the JBU board of trustees researched, evaluated, and interviewed candidates for the position, Pollard rose to the top as the best candidate for the presidency.

During the application and interview process, he experienced a “slow-growing confirmation” that JBU was in the Pollards’ future. He said there were a series of “hints and guesses” (a phrase borrowed from one of Pollard’s favorite poets, T.S. Eliot) that ultimately led him to the decision to come to JBU.

“Calvin’s President Gaylen Byker gave me this advice at the time: ‘Don’t take this job if you don’t fit with the mission of the university. It’s too hard of a job to struggle with the mission,’” said Pollard.

After visiting JBU, meeting with staff, faculty, and students, and reading about the history and vision of JBU, Pollard began to see that he was a good fit with the mission of John Brown University. Everything from his strong, personal commitment to evangelical Christianity to his love for scholarship and passion for people lined up perfectly with JBU.

“My wife [Carey] had come for the [interview] with some hesitations. We were very happy with where we were, and she wasn’t sure whether we should leave what we had in Michigan,” Pollard said. “But on the flight home, she said she thought this move to Siloam Springs might not be just okay; it might actually be better for our family.”
That night, about 15 minutes after the Pollards returned home from their visit, the JBU board of trustees called and offered him the position. After some long family discussions that weekend with Carey and their four children, Chad, Ben, Emma, and James, the Pollards decided to make the move to JBU.

"Those were tough conversations with our kids, and there were a lot of tears," said Pollard. "They had great friends and a good school. But we decided this was the best move for the entire family, and Carey and I were excited about taking on a job where we can really serve together.

"We felt that we were moving to a place where we could serve with people who were like-minded, both theologically and academically," Pollard said. "The decision was also a little mystical—we had a sense of God's calling."

So Pollard finished teaching his last semester at Calvin, closing a rewarding chapter in his life to open a new chapter: the presidency at JBU.

Chapter 3
Turning a Page in History

In June, the Pollards packed up their home in Michigan and made the move to the president's home on the JBU campus. Even though Siloam Springs is small, it still took some time for Dr. Pollard and his family to find their way around town.

"It took us the first two months to figure out if any street went straight through Siloam Springs," Pollard said.

As the Pollards settle into a new home, new community, and new schools, the four Pollard children are getting used to their dad being a university president.

One day when Dr. Pollard was walking with his eight-year-old son, James, to a JBU rugby match, James asked him what the president of JBU does. Dr. Pollard, looking for a little inspiration for his upcoming inaugural address, asked James what he thought the JBU president does.

"Well," James replied, "you own all of these buildings, so you must go around campus and tell people that you own this building and that building."

Dr. Pollard said that James seemed noticeably disappointed when he learned that his dad didn't own all those buildings and that, in fact, the Pollards didn't even own their own home anymore!

James took another stab at figuring out what the JBU president does. He said, "I guess that you go to a lot of meetings where people talk a lot." Then a bit puzzled, he asked, "Dad, do you like being president of JBU?"

Pollard assured him that he does.

During the first few months as president, Dr. Pollard has been diligent about getting to know the faculty, staff, and students and learning the ins and outs of daily business at John Brown University.

But even with the busyness of his new schedule, Dr. Pollard has found time for a little fun. This fall, students have enjoyed watching their new president play intramural flag football with fellow students and staff on a team called "All the President's Men."

Chapter 4
Looking Ahead

Dr. Pollard takes the post as JBU president with a clear vision for what his role should be at JBU.

"There are three things I know are clearly important," said Pollard. "The role of the president is a triangle. At the top, and most importantly, is preserving the Christian identity of the university. The other two points of the triangle are the financial integrity and the educational quality of JBU."

Pollard believes that each chapter in his life has been preparing him for this new challenge: the leadership of John Brown University.

"All those life experiences have made me who I am, and who I am is whom God has called to this position," Pollard said. "You take this kind of job realizing that it's a jump, and I'm ready to take that jump and rely on God to help me do it well."
Traveling on the road from the Green Zone to the Baghdad airport, JBU alumna Myriah Jordan ’99 was apprehensive when her SUV became stuck in traffic.

“We started buzzing down the main highway, windows open, weapons pointed outside, and traffic came to a halt,” Jordan said. “Of course, my first thought is, A traffic jam on the way to the airport, and I’m going to end up late. My second thought is, A traffic jam on the way to the airport, and we’re a giant, sitting target in the middle of one of the most dangerous roads in Iraq.”

Jordan, who works as an attorney in the Chief Counsel’s Office of the Economic Development Administration of the United States Commerce Department in Washington D.C., spent several months in Iraq helping to rewrite Iraq’s commercial law for the Coalition Provisional Authority before the handover of sovereignty to the interim Iraqi government earlier this year.

Jordan was heading from the Green Zone, the expansive head-quarters of the provisional government, to catch a flight to the nation of Jordan where she would give a speech at a convention about the laws she was drafting that deal with non-governmental organizations. She had not left Baghdad since arriving in Iraq in February 2004, three months earlier. Now they were stopped in traffic by a truck full of unsecured bricks that had flipped on the road ahead.

“As we looped down the other road, we saw the men in robes close the hood to their ‘broken down’ vehicle, and move on down the make-shift exit.”

For Jordan, being a single American civilian woman in a turbulent Middle Eastern nation, being worked out in Iraq.

“Every day I have a sense that I’m right in the middle of history, and I’m watching it unfold in a way that I wouldn’t be able to from back in the States,” she said in a recent interview with Jocelyn Green, writer for the Council for Christian Colleges & Universities. “I also know that I’m serving a cause much bigger than myself. I really believe in what the journalists don’t get out in Baghdad. . . .

“After the prayer, the soldier thanked us, re-shouldered his rifle, and returned to duty. The chaplain picked right up where he left off in his sermon.”

While Jordan had high praise for the men and women in uniform, she was not as gracious to some members of the media who had come to Iraq to cover the war. “The American media is atrocious,” she said. “They send people over here just so that they can put a Baghdad dateline on their stories, but then they never get out in Baghdad.”

Jordan said Iraq is dangerous, but because the journalists don’t get out, they are prone to “pack journalism,” reporting only on the stories that “fall into their lap” and failing to report a whole picture of conflict and development.

“My second thought is, A traffic jam on the way to the airport, and we’re a giant, sitting target in the middle of one of the most dangerous roads in Iraq.”

And yet in the midst of a negative press and real violence, Jordan contends Iraq is improving.

“Admittedly, there is violence throughout Iraq,” Jordan said. “Yet tremendous progress has been made in Iraq, at a rate faster than that of post-World War II Europe. The improved schools, greater utility capacity, immunization programs, health clinics, increasing jobs, an emerging, independent court system, progress in women’s rights, a new constitution, a new sense of freedom, etc., get little or no attention from the media.”

For Jordan, the brightest hope for Iraq is seen in the faces of its children.

“I had some little toys I’d been planning on giving out to the kids, and I went down to this alley where I always see a lot of them playing,” Jordan said. “As it turned out, it was too hot even for them to be outside, but when one of the men saw me looking for them, he ran inside to get them. They were absolutely thrilled.”

“My second thought is, A traffic jam on the way to the airport, and we’re a giant, sitting target in the middle of one of the most dangerous roads in Iraq.”

Jordan said the children were well-mannered and gracious.

“I think we played with every toy in the bag,” she said. “When I told them I had to go, they all promptly handed back all the toys—too whining or pleading. I told them they could keep all that they wanted, and they gleefully dug their hands back in the bag.”

Acts of goodwill such as Jordan experienced with these children will be the foundation of good relations between the United States, Jordan said.
Stories from the Road  
by Jim Evans  
Regional Director of Development

Tonight I find myself in a little music room. It’s hardly large enough to hold the baby Grand piano, bench, and a small chair in the corner. Around the walls are hundreds of hymnals, music books, sheet music, and notebooks. Tapestry covers the floor, walls, and windows. It’s reminiscent of what you would imagine in the private study of one of the great masters. This beautiful little lady, barely five-feet tall and 82 years young, sits at the piano quietly playing her own version of Amazing Grace with a syncopated jazzy rhythm as she talks. Her name is Naomi Spratt Adams ‘41. She didn’t graduate from John Brown. She was there only two years; however, those two years were very influential.

One vivid memory for her is the time she enjoyed a formal tea hosted by Mrs. Brown (the founder’s wife). Naomi was extremely poor and had to borrow the hat and gloves that she wore that afternoon. She was greeted by Mrs. Brown with an inviting smile and was welcomed into the founder’s home. The girls were taught etiquette at these teas, and for Naomi, it was as if she were taking part in things that only the privileged enjoyed. That moment encapsulated her entire experience at John Brown University.

Her time at JBU was also a spiritual awakening for her. She left the university and began working as teacher, worship leader, pianist, or anywhere she felt God leading.

Today, you find her ministering to youth groups in Arkansas City, Kansas. Involved in numerous ministries, as well as starting several in her own home, she carries a passion for youth and the message of Christ wherever she goes.

It is interesting that each visit [I have with alumni] takes its own direction. Some are a bit more formal and others become very casual. And then you have a visit like this one. It is the type of visit that keeps you going for days. The genuine joy and wisdom that alumni such as Naomi impart in their stories, opinions, and prayers provide strength and assurance that what we do is a worthy endeavor. I am reminded of a saying: “Any worthy endeavor will require significant effort.” Mrs. Adams and her husband will be praying for us, I promise.

The views from the road are often as beautiful at the stories. Jim captured this image on his way to visit Naomi.

At the end of the year, don’t forget JBU!

100% of all gifts given to the Fund for Student Financial Support go directly to fund need-based scholarships and work-study positions. For more information about the FSFS, or to give online, visit www.jbu.edu/giving. Or call (800) 446-2450.
Moving presents some great opportunities and some significant challenges for a family. Several years ago we moved with our three boys from Denver, Colorado to John Brown University. We went from living in the Rockies to the Ozarks, from health food restaurants to fied food restaurants, from a Starbucks on every corner to no Starbucks at all, and our kids went from private schools to public schools. It was a huge transition for every one of us.

An important life skill is learning how to manage change. While it can be hard on us adults, it can be especially hard on our kids. Depending on their age, many kids open up at bedtime. Sometimes it can be an excuse to stay up late, but if your children share painful or negative emotions, don’t correct them or give them the message that it’s wrong to have those feelings. Listening tells your kids that they are important to you, they are respected, and that in your family it is safe to feel and to express pain.

Don’t get too busy too quickly. Immediately (if not sooner) carve out time in your schedule to be a family and to have one-on-one time with each of your children. We’ve found that many kids open up at bedtime. Sometimes it can be an excuse to stay up late, but if your children share painful or negative emotions, don’t correct them or give them the message that it’s wrong to have those feelings. Listening tells your kids that they are important to you, they are respected, and that in your family it is safe to feel and to express pain.

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Don’t be surprised if your kids develop eating, sleeping, or school problems. It’s not uncommon for emotional problems to manifest themselves in other ways. As you reassure your children that they are still safe and secure, as you spend time with them, and as they begin to make new friends, you are likely to see these problems decrease and disappear.

Our first six months in northwest Arkansas weren’t just hard on us; they were very difficult for all three of our boys. But here’s the good news: All three of our sons now say they love it here. In fact, our two older boys can’t wait to come from college back home to Arkansas. As you help your children make this transition, know that they will be learning skills that will last a lifetime.

Carrie Oliver, M.A., is an educator and a marriage and family counselor. Gary J. Oliver, Th.M., Ph.D. is executive director of JBU’s Center for Marriage & Family Studies and professor of psychology and practical theology at JBU. The Oliviers have co-authored Raising Sons . . . and Loving It! (Zondervan). Learn more at www.liferelationships.com

The BUV built by JBU students is put to the test in competition. “The BUV has tremendous potential to improve transportation and serve as a tool for evangelism in remote areas of developing countries,” says Kim.
The inauguration of Chip Pollard as president of John Brown University was a wonderful event! It was an opportunity to thank the Lord for His blessings to JBU through the years and to celebrate the start of a new chapter in the life of the university. The pageantry, worship, and celebration as a community were a blessing to all who attended.

Jim Krall, Chair of the Inauguration Committee
Every Homecoming takes on its own flavor. Dr. Pollard’s inauguration as our 6th President started the weekend off with a bang that was heard all around Northwest Arkansas. The reuniting of classmates and good friends made the campus buzz with the sounds of laughter and the telling of familiar stories. Rugby, soccer, and volleyball games reminded both recent and not-so-recent grads why most of us now prefer watching such sports over participating. I daresay all of us enjoyed outstanding meals whether served in the Kresge Dining Room or under “The Big Top” tent set up on the lawn in the middle of campus. From the towering “Adrenaline Blast” inflatable slide/rock climbing wall for KidZone to the Showcase featuring the widest variety of musical productions by alumni and students ever assembled, this Homecoming had something for everyone. I tip my hat to the many people, on and off campus, who participated in making this year’s Homecoming something special.

Jerry Rollene ’75
Director of Alumni and Parent Relations
left top: Former members of JBU soccer teams play an alumni reunion soccer game Saturday.
left middle: Alumni, students, faculty, staff, and guests filled three large tents at the celebration luncheon after the inauguration.
below: Heritage Society members pose for a photo.

above: John Brown Jr. poses with Robert Barclay ’54 at the Heritage Society induction ceremony.

left: Joe Walenciak ’81 is the 2004 recipient of the “Christ Over All” Outstanding Alumnus Award.
bottom: Jennifer (Hampton) Marcum ’94 performs during Showcase.

Senior Leah Miller is crowned Homecoming queen.
When It Comes to Making an Impact, JBU Athletics Doesn’t Play Games

by Dr. Robert Burns
Director of Athletics

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ince the inception of intercollegiate athletics at JBU in 1958, the goal has been to develop a program that fits the mission of the university, and we have been working toward that end continuously.

It has been my pleasure to have served at JBU for the past thirty years, most of which has been spent directing the Golden Eagle intercollegiate athletics program. I have been questioned from time to time as to why I think intercollegiate athletics is an important part of the college campus, and, particularly at JBU. Some might say, “Everybody else has it,” or, “It’s just not college without intercollegiate sports.” But, we operate from the premise that intercollegiate athletics should be more than a rallying point for the campus or a means of creating school spirit, although these are important.

At JBU, we believe intercollegiate sports plays an integral part in the educational process and in a microcosm of society that allows the student-athlete an opportunity to develop and demonstrate his or her God-given ability to the glory of God.

We believe that attempting to win each contest is very important, but not an end in itself. We believe that all activities within the individual sport programs should exemplify JBU’s commitment to a Christ-like witness and reflect university policies.

We believe that the coaches are one of the most significant components of the program and have a unique responsibility and opportunity to mold the lives of student-athletes. We believe that “to whom much is given, much is expected,” and this truth should be reflected in the student-athletes’ daily lives, whether in the classroom or on the court or field.

We believe that as Christian athletes display these characteristics, good things, usually happen: teams are victorious, players are motivated, fans are supportive and enthusiastic, parents are proud, and prospective student-athletes want to participate. And we believe that very often, because of the way we play, because of the character we exhibit, and because of the way we exercise our God-given gifts, non-believers are drawn to Christ. It’s why we believe in making “Christ over all,” even over intercollegiate athletics.

Several JBU swimmers set JBU records and qualified for the NAIA national meet held last spring.

The 2004 men’s soccer team placed second in the SAC regular season with 11 wins, 3 losses, and 2 ties.

The 2004 men’s volleyball team took first place in the SAC with a record of 36 wins, 7 losses.

The 2004 women’s volleyball team placed fourth in the SAC.

The 2004-2005 women’s basketball team is starting strong, going undefeated in their first five games. Last season they were invited to the NAIA national tournament.

Graduating Senior Pablo Fernandez, 28, began playing soccer as a four-year-old in Uruguay and began his lifelong career as goalie a year later. He finished school [in Uruguay] at 10 but didn’t graduate. He continued playing soccer until he was 21 for a youth club team. He tried to move into the professional realm but couldn’t because of injuries, he said.

Then in 2000, Leonardo Peirano, who was a junior from Uruguay playing soccer for JBU, made Fernandez a deal that changed his life. Peirano told Fernandez if he finished high school that he would try to get Fernandez to JBU.

“I was desperate about my future. I saw myself growing older without a job, career, or money,” Fernandez said. “I was just having fun.”

Fernandez went back to [high] school, graduated, and left his now-fiancée, Paula, to come to JBU on a soccer scholarship. While at JBU, Pablo soon became known for his incredible work ethic and encouragement.

“In four years here at JBU, I can’t do what I did in the United States and wants to study sports psychology. “I don’t have time to waste,” Fernandez said, referring to his age. “I have to catch up.”

But once he catches up he wants to go home to Uruguay. “There’s nothing like home,” Fernandez said. “Even if you live on the moon.”

“His future through JBU.

This story by Amy Harbottle first appeared in The Threefold Advocate, “JBU’s” student newspaper. Edited and reprinted by permission.
With all the excitement of JBU’s recent presidential inauguration, we thought you’d enjoy flashing back to another presidential event in JBU’s history. In 1978, JBU inaugurated John Brown III as the university’s third president. A dark-haired Bill Clinton, governor of Arkansas at the time, spoke during the ceremony, which was held in the Cathedral of the Ozarks. Guests enjoyed a buffet afterward in the Dye Lounge.

If you have historic photos of events from JBU’s past that you’d like to share, please send them to:

John Brown University
2000 West University St.
Siloam Springs, AR 72761

All photos will be forwarded to JBU archives. Some may be selected for publication. By sending us your photos, you are giving JBU permission to use those photos for publication. Photos cannot be returned.
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