Dear Alumni and Friends of JBU,

Greetings. We have just finished graduating a record number of students here at JBU, and it is deeply satisfying to watch faculty, staff, students, and families come together to celebrate graduation ceremonies. We have added a baccalaureate worship service on Friday evening for the traditional undergraduates and their families, and at this service, I spoke to them from Isaiah 40:28-31. I wanted to use this final time of worship in the Cathedral to remind them of some of God’s attributes.

We have a God of the long view. He accomplishes His purposes over the long haul. He measures results over a lifetime, not over a semester or even over four years. He sees the trajectory of our lives, and He understands how hardship, success, and challenge fit into that trajectory.

We have a God who does not grow tired or weary. We grow tired and weary from the strain of life. However, we serve a God that is with us in our weariness because He neither slumbers nor sleeps. He restores, sustains, and renewes us through even the most difficult of circumstances.

We have a God whose understanding we can never fully fathom. God’s mind is not our mind, and that truth is difficult to accept when confronted with life’s suffering. We want to understand God’s mind about the stillborn child, the AIDS-victims in Africa, the tsunami in Asia, the divorce of our parents, or the rejection of our friends. But the prophet rightly reminds us that we will never fully probe the mind of God, that we will never fully have His perspective. We must trust now and understand later.

I ended my baccalaureate message by reading a note that I had received from a student the week before. He writes: “When I came to JBU I was a person that had never fully have His perspective. We must trust now and understand later.”

Eventually, it made me turn back to the Bible. I turned to God, and He started to redefine my faith. I came in as a wounded soul, and I am leaving here as a person solidified in Christ, weak in my own nature but strengthened beyond my limitations by God’s presence. “Thank you.”

Notes such as this one remind me of the good work being done by so many here at JBU. The rest of this Brown Bulletin has other reminders of that good work. I trust that you will be as encouraged as I have been in reading these stories and recognizing that God continues to be at work through John Brown University.

God-speed,

Dr. Charles W. Pollard
Appreciation for Katrina Help

My name is Diane Phillips, and I live in St. Bernard Parish, Louisiana. Work before last, we received homes from JBU in the area. I wanted to take just a second of your time to express our appreciation to the students of JBU for their time and selfless effort on behalf of the people of St. Bernard Parish.

Without the time donated by the many university and church organizations, many of the displaced people would be unable to return. The neighborhood your bus was in is made up of many older couples, at or near retirement age. Many of them had no flood insurance and simply do not have the funds needed to repair their homes. The students have helped lift the spirits of many forgotten victims of the storm. They give us hope that maybe the world hasn’t forgotten us after all.

We pray that God will continue to bless JBU and the students, as well as the parents and teachers that encourage these young people in their charitable work. Thanks to them and the many other students from across the nation, this small section of St. Bernard Parish has a good start on rebuilding and repairing their lives. Please keep our community in your prayers and thoughts.

Sincerely,

Diane Phillips
St. Bernard Parish, LA

Thank You, Professors

Dear JBU Professors:

Greetings from sunny San Pedro Sula, Honduras! After four years at JBU, now I am back in my home country. I work for the Coca-Cola Company as a market and operations analyst. It has been always my dream to work for a global company, and what I learned in the leadership classes to always finish in a win situation. (Thanks, Dr. Haak.)

In regards to my job, I have to do the following interpretations from HUGE database systems and making analysis of these! (Thanks, Walito.)

• Micro/Macroeconomics: This has helped me a lot in order to prepare weekly and monthly reports about our business. Thanks, Dr. Haak.
• Financial spreadsheets, accounting, finance: I use Excel to produce reports every single day! (Thanks, Mr. McCullough and Dr. Knowles.)
• Statistics, financial math: Most of my job has to do with interpreting numbers from HUGE database systems and making analysis of these! (Thanks, Walito.)
• Leadership and management: I have to negotiate with our bottlers every day, so I make use of all the concepts and techniques that I learned in the leadership classes to always finish in a win-win situation. (Thanks, Dr. Haak.)
• Project management: I have to be very careful with everything that has to do with project management. (Thanks, Ms. O’Brien.)

I always remember my time at JBU, and I hope I can visit you soon. Thank you for bringing such wonderful teachers, mentors, and friends! God bless you all.

Sincerely,

Hernán A. Reyes ’03
Market & Operations Analyst - Honduras
The Coca-Cola Company, Latin Center Division

No Escaping JBU or Rose Bud

JBU, Friends,

I just got a phone call from a friend, Paul, from Rose Bud, Arkansas, where I grew up. He was in the Viet Nam war and just returned from visiting Viet Nam for the first time since the war.

In Saigon, he sat down in a restaurant and started visiting with a husband and wife who, as it turned out, are American missionaries to Saigon. They asked him where he’s from, and he laughed and said, “A place you’ve never heard of: Rose Bud, Arkansas.” They started laughing, and we have. We both graduated from a little private college in Northwest Arkansas in the ’90s and had an English teacher who told wild stories about Rose Bud.” Paul said, “That must have been JBU and Shirley Thomas.” They screamed, “Yes!” It was Jennifer Boy Hecht ’93 and her husband Tim ’93. What are the chances that in Saigon someone from Rose Bud, Arkansas, would run into someone who graduated from JBU, much less who knew someone from Rose Bud! Paul said, “Shirley, I went 15,000 miles! Woman, there is no getting away from you!”

The world is small and JBU really is internationally-known, both in Rose Bud and Saigon. I guess we better behave ourselves because we can never escape.

Shirley Forbes Thomas, Ph.D.
President, Thomas-Forbes & Kester, LLC
Fayetteville, AR

Walker Gift Adds $1 Million to Endowed Scholarship Funds

In January, the Willard & Pat Walker Charitable Foundation, Inc. pledged $500,000 to JBU's endowed scholarship fund to benefit students in the biblical studies division. Because the Walker Foundation gift qualified for JBU’s $10 Million Challenge campaign, it was matched with $500,000 from an anonymous donor to create a $1 million endowed scholarship.

This Walker endowment fund will provide significant scholarships to 15 to 20 students each year beginning in the fall 2006 semester.

“JBU is deeply grateful to the Walker Foundation for this wonderful gift. It will benefit JBU students for generations,” said JBU President Chip Pollard. “The students in our biblical studies division are some of our finest. They go out from JBU to become leaders in churches, camps, youth programs, missions, and social services organizations throughout Northwest Arkansas and around the world. The Walker Scholarship fund will make a great difference in helping these students earn their JBU degree and continue to serve others.”

The Walker Foundation designated its funds to students working toward a degree in the biblical studies division. This includes students who are studying biblical and theological studies, cross-cultural services, children and family ministries, outdoor leadership ministries, youth ministries, and family and human services.

JBU’s SIFE team celebrates their win at the regional competition in Dallas.

Pat Walker and Debbie Walker stand with some of JBU’s biblical studies students. The Walker Foundation scholarships will benefit students in the biblical studies division.

JRU radio station 101.1 FM JRU was selected by the Gospel Music Association (GMA) as Radio Station of the Year from a national pool of small-market Christian radio stations. JRU is the only college station to win the award in GMA’s history.

GMA awarded JRU this most prestigious honor in Christian radio (formerly known as the Dove Award) based on industry leadership, ratings, overall on-air sound, as well as community involvement. This is JRU’s third Station of the Year award in the past five years. Sean Sawatzky ’96, station manager, attributes the station’s success to its focus on community involvement.

“If we aren’t serving the people who listen to our station, we are no different than a CD player, iPod, or satellite radio,” he said. “Christian radio is a partnership—a relationship, and we must never lose sight of this.”

In the past year, JRU experienced record growth as it became one of the top stations in Northwest Arkansas with 50,000 listeners.

“I am excited to share this award with our listeners,” Sawatzky said. “They play such an important role in JRU’s success. This honor is their’s as much as it is our’s!”

Since JRU features many student disc jockeys, program director Melody Miller ’00, emphasized the value of the award for undergraduates in JBU’s communication division. “It is exciting for our students who get to learn at an award-winning station,” Miller said. “Also, it is great for JBU and JRU to be recognized in this way.”

JRU received the award statuette during the 37th Annual GMA Music Awards, formerly the Dove Awards, on April 5. The program was broadcast through national syndication at various times in April and May.

JRU SIFE Sweeps Regional Competition, Heads to Nationals

JRU SIFE’s competitive team presented their projects and were named regional champions at the 2005-2006 SIFE regional competition in Dallas, Texas, on Wednesday, April 12. The team advances to the national competition in Kansas City, May 21-23.

During competition, each SIFE team gives a well-rehearsed, extensive multimedia presentation explaining their projects, which support and promote free enterprise in their communities and beyond, educate others in personal leadership.
JBU Business Teams Win 1st, 2nd, and 3rd in Governor's Cup

JBU students who prepared business plans for Donald W. Reynolds’s Governor’s Cup for Entrepreneurial Development took three of the top six awards in the statewide competition. The awards were presented in Little Rock, Arkansas on April 12. Of the 63 undergraduate business plans submitted for the 2006 competition from four-year institutions around the state, four from JBU were among the 12 chosen to compete in the semi-final round.

The AgSolutions Corp. team, made up of JBU seniors Shawn Gatton, Megan Kelly, Melody Masis, and Laura Redmond, received first place for the technology award (a $5,000 prize) and placed second overall (a $10,000 prize) in the undergraduate division. They presented a plan for creating “Bio-Energy” pellets from poultry litter and corn for use as an alternative heating source in poultry houses and large manufacturing facilities.

Sabor Latino, comprised of JBU sophomore Seth Hildenbrant and seniors Emily McGuire, Ellie Thoene, and Leidi Urbina, won third place (a $5,000 prize) in the undergraduate division for their proposed Spanish language entertainment center, which would be the largest supplier of Spanish-language movies, books, and music in Northwest Arkansas.

In addition to prize money for those who won, students involved in the competition gained access to networks of successful entrepreneurs, leaders, and investors from Arkansas.

JBU SIFE was named a finalist in all six categories in the competition and took home the regional title.

Vila Awarded Fulbright Scholar Grant

Dr. David Vila, associate professor of biblical studies, has been awarded a Fulbright Scholar grant as a lecturer and researcher at Yarmouk University in Irbid, Jordan. Vila will work in Jordan August 2006 through June 2007. He will teach History of Western Thought to graduate-level students in the English department.

Yarmouk University is a state university that has approximately 20,000 students. Vila’s research project, titled “The Churches of Abila: From Byzantine to Islamic Rule,” will be an archaeological investigation of the transition from Byzantine to Islamic culture in northern Jordan and its impact on the Christian populations of the region.

The Fulbright program, the U.S. government’s flagship program in international educational exchange, was developed in 1946 for promoting “mutual understanding between the people of the United States and the people of other countries of the world,” according to the program web site. Fulbright Scholars lecture or conduct research in a wide variety of academic and professional fields.

JBU Virtual Tour Reaches Top Honors

Not only is the JBU virtual tour a practical tool allowing web site visitors to see the JBU campus, but it is also an award-winning multimedia presentation. Launched on the JBU web site in 2005, the virtual tour was awarded the highest rating—four stars—by CampusTours.com and was selected as the feature tour on their home page in December. In April, the Council for the Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) recognized the JBU virtual tour with their highest award—the Grand Award—in the category of Audiovisual Communications—Multimedia Presentations for CASE District IV. (District IV includes state and private colleges and universities in Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas, and Mexico.)

The virtual tour was created by Chad Weaver ‘05 as his digital media senior project. Weaver worked with JBU Uni-
Spiritual Claustrophobia
or Leave Them Wanting Less
by Tracy Balzer
Director of Christian Formation

My friend and I were killing time in a London airport giftshop a few years ago when we came upon a delightful tome of practical wisdom, Eeyore’s Little Book of Gloom. Its contents sent the two of us into spasms of laughter, as it was so completely the opposite of the fluffy, feel-good, gifty books one typically finds in airport shops. (Reading it aloud in a languid, quasi-bass voice also helped.) An example: “You can give the donkey a happy ending...but the miserable beginning remains forever.” And, under the title “Accentuate the Negative,” Eeyore bemoans, “We can’t all, and some of us don’t. That’s all there is to it...I’m not complaining, but There It Is [sic].”

Easy for me to laugh; I don’t have to go through life with my tail thumb-tacked on. But I do have a wee bit of misery of my own that enjoys Eeyore’s company, particularly as illustrated in the following excerpt entitled “Leave Them Wanting Less”:

Everybody crowds round so in this Forest. There’s no Space. I never saw a more Spreading lot of animals in my life, and all in the wrong places [sic]. Can’t you see that Christopher Robin wants to be alone?

The fact is, I need a little space now and then. My world gets too crowded with noise and activity. God’s voice is barely a squawk in the midst of it, because apparently, there is a “Spreading lot of animals” filling up my life. Eeyore knows a profound truth: “There’s no Space.”

I’m certain my students need space as well. They’ve been very productive, but in their crowded lives they too, find it hard to hear God. So, twice a semester, I take groups of them away for the day for what is classically known as a silent retreat. They submit (reluctantly, at first) to an afternoon of no talking and no iPods, away from perfectionism and the stress of relationships, away from the “animals” that are “all in the wrong places.” We sit alone. We pray in silence. We listen for the whispers of the Holy Spirit through His Word. We make space for God.

In doing so, we discover the kind of joy that comes when the obstacles are removed, and the Holy Spirit of God is once again allowed to roam freely in and through us. It is a brilliant trade. “This is what the Sovereign LORD, the Holy One of Israel, says: ‘In repentance and rest is your salvation, in quietness and trust is your strength,’” (Isaiah 30:15). If a cynical old stuffed donkey can recognize this, surely we can, too.

We need to be deliberate about making space for God. There It Is.
The soldiers, who have been Awana leaders in their churches at home, continue introducing activities to the families, sharing the Gospel through the tools of Awana. Within a few weeks, many Iraqi parents and children trust Christ as their Savior.

A world away, children in an Awana club in Arkansas are playing the same kinds of games on a formation drawn on the sanctuary floor at Silson Springs Bible Church, less than a mile from JBU. The children in Arkansas, like the children in Iraq, are hearing the Gospel through the tools of Awana. For decades, JBU students and alumni have been among those serving in various ways with Awana clubs in local churches and communities across the nation and around the world.

For the last 27 years, Larry Fowler ’74 has been a significant part of the growth and vision of Awana Clubs International, serving as an Awana missionary in California, creating the Awana curriculum used to reach junior high students, developing training materials for Awana missionaries, and overseeing what has become a worldwide Awana movement. Fowler currently serves as the executive director and overseeing what has become a worldwide Awana movement. Seeking a supplemental program for their children’s ministry. Many times, however, Awana clubs become the catalyst for church growth when a community Awana club, established by Awana missionaries, reaches out to children and their families, spurring the formation of a new church.

Awana operates as a weekly club for children who play games, hear Bible stories, recite Bible verses, and take part in the kinds of ceremonies and competitions you would expect to find in any club for children. Awana clubs around the world look very similar; however, the curriculum for each club is tailored to fit the local community and culture.

Fowler has invested his life in the spiritual training of children through Awana Clubs International. His call to serve in children’s ministry came when he was young, after his own childhoodlimited his opportunities to interact with other children. Growing up on a cattle ranch in a small town in western Nebraska, he attended school in a one room school-house with no one in his grade, no one in the grade below, and only one girl in the grade above.

“It was a very sparsely populated part of the U.S.,” Fowler says. “There were no other children my age.”

A weeklong Bible camp was the highlight of Fowler’s summers. He enjoyed every moment spent with other children. In excited anticipation, he would begin packing for camp at least a month before he was to leave. At the age of 13, while at camp, Fowler knew that God was calling him to a life of full-time ministry. That call was clarified later that same summer when he was invited to help lead a Vacation Bible School.

“It was the greatest honor to be asked to lead VBS,” and I took it very seriously. That was the beginning of God putting a passion in me for children’s ministry,” Fowler says. This passion for reaching children would be further encouraged during his years attending JBU.

Fowler describes his JBU experience as an “absolutely superior Bible education” that was foundational to his ability to serve and grow the ministry of Awana. In a time before there was a children and family ministry degree at JBU, Fowler learned how to apply knowledge to his calling through the godly examples of Dr. Jim Walters, Dr. Gil Weaver, and his mentor, Dr. Richard Ruhle. “They helped me cut my teeth on children’s ministry,” Fowler says.

After graduating from JBU, Fowler moved to California with his wife Diane (Lindsay) ’73 to attend Talbot Seminary. Four years later, while working full time as a youth pastor at a church in Riverside, California, Fowler learned about the Awana program. He began using the program in their church, and in a short time their ministry exploded.

“Within a year, we were having more children attend our Awana meeting than were attending the church on Sunday morning,” Fowler says. Through that experience, God gave Larry and Diane a love for Awana and a call to work with Awana in their ministry to children and youth. Awana would be the tool they would use to share the Gospel.

Larry and Diane served as faith-supported Awana missionaries to churches in the Los Angeles area from 1979 until 1996. During this time, Larry completed an independent study of the junior high Awana program as one of his last seminary requirements. He realized through his research that Awana was not retaining students in the seventh and eighth grade. He submitted his recommendations to both the seminary program and Awana headquarters. Accordingly, Awana asked him to develop the curriculum for a new program geared to reach junior high students, now known as the Awana Jr. Varsity Program.

In 1996, the Fowlers moved their family to Illinois where Larry accepted a position at the Awana Clubs International headquarters, training Awana missionaries, most of whom were in the U.S. “We enjoyed the opportunity to do a lot...
of creative things in innovative ways in doing our ministry, and the administration wanted others to learn about that," Fowler explains.

Fowler soon realized, however, that international missionaries would benefit most from additional training. He began traveling more internationally, serving the 40 to 50 international missionaries who were taking the Awana movement abroad. As Fowler focused on Awana's global expansion, the number of international Awana missionaries grew to more than 300.

Through his years of involvement in the ministry of Awana, Fowler's own spiritual growth has been challenged as he memorizes God's Word. Because scripture memory is such a vital part of the Awana program, Fowler strives to lead by example in memorizing verses, just as the children and leaders do.

JBU freshman Scott Key has learned over 800 verses as part of the Awana program. Key grew up in Temple, Texas and attended the Awana program through high school. He now volunteers as an Awana leader for third- through sixth-grade boys at Siloam Springs Bible Church. “You memorize a lot of verses,” Key says. “Those verses have helped me through my life, and I thought it would be a good thing to encourage those students [at SSBC].”

Glenda Manos ’75, head of the Awana program at Siloam Springs Bible Church for 21 years, says she has chosen to encourage those students “through my life, and I thought it would be a good thing to memorize Bible verses at Siloam Springs Bible Church. “You memorize a lot of verses,” Key says. “Those verses have helped me through my life, and I thought it would be a good thing to encourage those students [at SSBC].”

Glenda Manos ’75, head of the Awana program at Siloam Springs Bible Church for 21 years, says she has chosen to encourage those students “through my life, and I thought it would be a good thing to memorize Bible verses, just as the children and leaders do.

In 2003, Awana Clubs International established a new effort focused on redesigning Awana programs to keep up with technology and trends. Aware that the current generation of children is growing up in a different world than the generations who went before, Awana is committed to keeping biblical messages consistent while addressing the needs and culture of today’s children. Fowler was named executive director of programs and training over the new division aimed at leading the organization to find the most effective ways to communicate the Gospel to today’s kids.

Awana is also addressing the needs of the family by increasing its focus on encouraging parental involvement. Awana recently established the Rorheim Institute, a leader development network that provides training through studies, conferences, and seminars across the country. The Institute offers education and resources to help parents in the biblical concept from Proverbs of “training up a child in the way he should go.”

“God began to burden my heart and the hearts of all of us around the need to get back to scripture’s model and encourage parents more in raising children,” Fowler says. “We began to understand that Christian parents have been doing a lot of delegating of the responsibility, instead of doing it themselves.”

Dr. Holly Allen, associate professor of Christian ministries and director of the children and family ministries program at JBU, agrees that an emphasis on parents being the spiritual leaders for their children is crucial.

“The biblical imperative is for parents to train up a child in which they should go. The church’s responsibility is to come alongside parents, to help in that intentional aspect,” Allen says.

Allen describes that parents are often relieved to turn over this responsibility to the church, and then they find themselves feeling unable and incapable of training their children. One way that Awana helps parents feel empowered to teach and train their children is in encouraging parents to help children memorize Bible verses. This opens doors for family conversations about biblical principles.

JBU senior Laura Kielilhaus, one of Allen’s students and an Awana volunteer, says her work with Awana has enabled her to see firsthand the concepts that she is learning in the classroom and the importance of children having godly adults in their lives. She is excited about the new Awana initiatives to intentionally include parents.

“Parents are the primary source of their children’s spiritual education, whether or not they recognize it. Parents need to realize that teaching their children is ultimately their responsibility, and a local church’s children’s ministry needs to focus on empowering the family to do just that,” Kielilhaus says.

As Fowler has worked with Awana through the years, the importance of children’s ministry has become an urgent message that he desires to share with the world. In many cultures, children are viewed as insignificant, and many churches do not see children’s ministry as a high priority. Fowler speaks of the importance of children’s ministry in his book, Richard Wurmbrand’s Children’s Ministry: Building Your Ministry to Kids Upon a Scriptural Foundation, saying, “Sometimes children are viewed in terms of their future value. But to Jesus, children were precious in the here and now, and He gave them His full attention and love.”

Fowler explains, “There is a window of opportunity that many people are not aware of that exists from the ages of four or five to age 12, in which nearly every individual on the face of the earth is most open and most receptive to the Gospel of Jesus Christ. And, once a person hits the age of 12 or 13, the window of opportunity to their receptivity to the Gospel begins to close.”

Awana clubs are active in 12,000 American churches in all 50 states and in 4,000 churches abroad in more than 100 countries. The number of children Awana reaches each week is about 1.2 million, enough to fill 20 football stadiums lined end to end, Fowler describes. However, the number of children who have not yet heard the Gospel is far greater. These children are close to Fowler’s heart as he continues to dedicate his life to reaching children.
The Master Story

Part of knowing God is knowing about God. Hearing the Christian master story is an important way that children come to identify with the people of God and come to know God as their own God.

What is the master story? It is God’s story: God has worked throughout the ages to draw people to Himself—Adam and Eve, Noah, Abraham, Joseph, the Israelites, the kings, the prophets. Mostly, they rejected Him. Then He sent His Son to make a better way for His people to come to him. And now—we tell our children—God is calling you, just as he called all the others we read about. Your story is part of the master story. How can we share the master story?

• Tell the Bible stories. This may seem obvious, but when we are concerned that children know God, we may skip over the importance of knowing about God.
• Add the faith stories from those in your church to the Hebrews 11 torrent way for His people to come to him.

A Sense of Wonder

Children think deeply about God and wonder what He is like. We need to allow time for spiritual knowing, time for children to think, contemplate, listen, perceive, and receive. We need to allow time for children to experience the wonder of God. How can we encourage a sense of wonder?

• Take time for unhurried walks and ask questions like, “I wonder how the dogwoods know when to bloom?”
• Ask questions like, “I wonder why there are stars?”
• Allow children to attend funerals or memorial services. Listen to their reflections concerning death.

A Spiritual Walk

Children love to wonder. Encouraging wonder taps into that deep spiritual realm where God and child can meet.

Intergenerational Settings

Children want to do things with adults. Yet, the societal trend toward age segregation has moved into churches also. Age-based classes, teen programs, and separate worship services for adults and children tend to separate families and age groups from each other. But children grow spiritually and believe God is calling people from all ages to come together.

Do you know a high school student preparing for college, refer them to JBU!
THE $10 MILLION CHALLENGE!

Thanks to the generosity of JBU alumni and friends

JBU will award over $100,000 in new scholarships in 2006!

“We’re excited and we’re thankful!” This is the feeling of all of us at JBU when it comes to the $10 Million Challenge. As reported in an earlier issue of the Brown Bulletin, the $10 Million Challenge is a challenge made by an anonymous donor to alumni and friends of JBU to add $10,000,000 to existing and new endowed scholarship funds. This friend of JBU has pledged up to $5,000,000 in matching funds for all cash and deferred gifts designated to endowed scholarships that meet minimal criteria.

- JBU has already received over $3.5 million in gifts and matching funds toward the $10 million goal.
- Who has been giving to the Challenge? JBU alumni, friends, parents, JBU faculty and staff, corporations, and foundations have all given to the Challenge.
- What kinds of gifts are they giving? We have received cash, real estate, stocks, and mutual funds.
- We have received deferred gifts in the form of charitable gift annuities and charitable remainder trusts.
- As a result of these gifts, over $100,000 in new scholarship awards will be given for the 2006-2007 academic year!

Our Example:

Bobbie Laughlin ’55 graduated with a degree in math. She taught for 35 years in Detroit area public schools, and she has been a JBU supporter for many of those years. In 2001 Bobbie established an endowed scholarship that gives preference to female math majors. When she heard about the $10 Million Challenge she was inspired to dramatically increase her giving to her existing scholarship. To take advantage of the matching opportunity, Bobbie gave gifts of vacant land and cash, and now is in the process of giving a rental property to JBU. JBU will sell the land and rental property and place the proceeds of the sale with her cash gift into Bobbie’s existing scholarship fund. The total amount of Bobbie’s gifts added to the fund will be matched dollar-for-dollar by the anonymous donor. The matching fund will also be placed into Bobbie’s scholarship fund.

The $10 Million Challenge has given Bobbie and many other JBU alumni and friends a vision for scholarship development! For this we are excited and thankful!

Student Journal

A Girl Named Norma

Sometimes God puts people in our lives whether we like it or not. Her name is Norma.* She is the person who sat alone at lunch and confesses to have self-esteem and image problems and will share about how hard it is to make new friends.

During the first few days at JBU, I called home complaining selfishly about how it was difficult to meet people who actually cared who I was. Yeah, everyone was very nice but I wasn’t feeling like people were taking an interest in me as a person. My dad, in all of his wisdom said, “Jill, be there for other people who are ever so slightly less comfortable than you are. You think this is difficult for you? What is it like for people who are really lonely? Work on reaching out to others in need.”

Okay… Maybe I don’t want to. It’s easier to stay in my bubble and enjoy meeting people who I connect with. I’ve noticed myself sitting with the same eight or ten people at meals and hanging out with the same people. Is this a bad thing? Is developing relationships with people something that can be seen as bad?

Her name is Norma. I’ve talked to her several times, and her social awkwardness is no secret. During the course of our lunch conversation, she begins to go into detail about her problems with warts and how herbal remedies haven’t helped them yet. Then somehow she switches topics to other personal health issues that cause a variety of problems for her. All I can think about is what people at the tables nearby must be thinking if they are hearing any part of this conversation. I don’t know how to respond to her, and I don’t really need to; she just wants someone to take the time to listen to her. It’s apparent that she’s not used to having friends.

Several days pass, and I don’t see her. I am thankful because then I won’t have to choose between my group of friends and Norma. I walk into the cafeteria with friends and head up to the lunch line. There she was with her back turned to me, but I knew it was her. Great! Now I have to choose again: do I sit with her or with my friends? They’ve always been more important to me, and there’s definitely no more room at our crowded table. What am I going to do? Thoughts ran through my head as I reach the end of the line, “Jill, someone else will sit with her… it’s not YOUR job to be the ONLY one to reach out to her… you need to make good friends too…” ME, ME, ME… What am I going to do???

More importantly, what would Jesus do? WOW… not exactly what I wanted to be thinking about at that moment. I tried desperately to push these thoughts out of my head. But Jesus is supposed to be my model. How to be more like Him. He didn’t hang out with the popular crowd of priests and Pharisees. Rather, He spent His time reaching out to others in need.

Thanks to the generosity of JBU alumni and friends, the $10 Million Challenge is a challenge made by an anonymous donor. The matching funds will also be placed into Bobbie’s scholarship fund.
SHARP SHOOTER

by Dustin Tracy, Junior Journalism Major

Wayne Cole, father of JBU star basketball player Brandon Cole, will be the first to attest to his son’s love for the game of basketball. “When Brandon was about eight or nine, we built a basketball court at the house,” he said. “At night when it would get too dark for him to see, he would go and turn our truck headlights on. I’d come out, and he’d still be hitting his shots.”

Brandon Cole, the 6-foot 1-inch senior guard from Hector, Arkansas, has seen massive success while wearing a Golden Eagles jersey. He currently holds three Sooner Athletic Conference (SAC) records, three NAIA records, five JBU records, and the honor of winning the 2005 NAIA Division I National Championship with his teammates. He was named NAIA National Tournament MVP in 2005; SAC All-Conference first team in 2003, 2004, and 2005; SAC Freshman of the Year in 2003; and recipient of the Dr. LeRoy Walker Champions of Character Award in 2006.

With all of his success, Cole has gotten the most media attention this 2005-2006 season for his three-point shooting alone. In December, Cole completed a three-point shot in his 112th consecutive game, breaking the record career three-point record at home in Murray Sells Gymnasium. Cole replied, “It’s definitely special. I’ve had a lot of great memories in this gym, in this place, with the fans, my family, my teammates—it’s all amazing. I couldn’t trade it for anything. But we really needed the win tonight, and we got the win even with the record. I’ve just got to give complete thanks to God, because He’s been amazing.”

Cole’s records not only garnered him local acclaim in newspapers and television sportscasts, but they also received national attention on ESPN twice. Some sportswriters even suggested that Cole be included in the NCAA three-point contest during March Madness, but grassroots efforts to secure an invitation failed to get him in.

“It’s been really gratifying to watch Brandon break the records he’s broken, but it’s even more gratifying to know that he embodies everything that college athletics is all about.” — John Sheehy

BRANDON COLE SETS NATIONAL RECORDS

December 2, 2005
:: Cole makes a three-pointer in his 112th game in a row, breaking all college records for the most consecutive games with a made three-point shot.

January 21, 2006
:: Cole’s three-point shots are shut out ending his consecutive game streak at 120 games. It is the only game in his college career that he failed to hit a trey.

February 23, 2006
:: Cole hits his 517th three-point shot, giving him more career three-point shots than any other player in the history of college basketball.

March 15, 2006
:: Cole ends his college career setting the new record for career three-point shots at 527.

:: He holds the JBU record for most treys in a season with 136, set in 2005. Four times he tied the school record for most treys in a game with 9. He holds the JBU record for career scoring with 2,190 points.

:: Cole is the Sooner Athletic Conference all-time leading scorer and was named SAC Player of the Year for the 2006 season.

March 21, 2006
:: Cole is named NAIA Player of the Year.

April 18, 2006
:: Cole is named the 2006 recipient of the Dr. LeRoy Walker Champions of Character Award, perhaps NAIA’s most prestigious award.
I've ever seen, ” Terry said. “He's got a career at JBU, said he has nothing but respect for his teammate.

“Basketball has always been a passion of mine, and I hope as life goes on, I'll keep enjoying it,” Cole said. “At night we'd play games against international teams, and the kids would come out and watch,” Cole said. “It was a really neat and amazing experience.

Brandon Cole, with fellow senior guard Alex (A.T.) Terry, whom Cole credits with helping him achieve his accomplishments.

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Brandon Cole, with fellow senior guard A.T. Terry, whom Cole credits with helping him achieve his accomplishments. Terry holds the JBU record for career assists with 725.

Champions of Character program, Cole also has traveled to Eastern Europe to do basketball missions. In the summer of 2003, Cole and his fellow teammates traveled to Germany, the Czech Republic, and Switzerland with Crossover Ministries. The team put on basketball camps for local children, did skits, and gave out Bibles.

“At night we’d play games against international teams, and the kids would come out and watch,” Cole said. “It was a really neat and amazing experience.”

Altogether, Cole said he’s happy with his experiences at JBU. “The relationships I’ve formed at JBU have really been awesome,” he said. “It’s been a constant encouragement being surrounded by the friends I’ve made at JBU, and I’ve consistently grown in my faith the entire time I’ve been here.”

Earnings and scholarships are only a small part of the sacrifices a student basketball player may face. “I’ve made sacrifices to play basketball at JBU,” Cole said. “I’ve made sacrifices to play basketball at JBU.”

But Sheehy feels Cole’s athletic ability is only a small part of who he really is. “It has been a privilege to see how Brandon has grown over the years,” Sheehy said, “and to know that Cole isn’t just a record setter; he’s one of the finest people I’ve ever met.”

Off the court, Cole has been a big part of JBU’s Champions of Character program for the past four years. The program, initiated by the NAIA, is designed to promote character in basketball with other people.

In addition to his work with the Champions of Character program, Cole also has traveled to Eastern Europe to do basketball missions. In the summer of 2003, Cole and his fellow teammates traveled to Germany, the Czech Republic, and Switzerland with Crossover Ministries. The team put on basketball camps for local children, did skits, and gave out Bibles.

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Brandon Cole: "I enjoy sharing the gift that God has given me in basketball with other people."
I’ve had the privilege to meet many wonderful and interesting people during my travels around the United States for John Brown University. I met Steve Horne ’75 about a year ago during a trip to the Chicago area where he lives with his wife Amy and their two children. Steve has a plumbing business. He also has a particular interest in missions, so he spends some of his free time in mission work and plans to spend his retirement in mission work as well.

Steve also loves riding his motorcycle and spends time riding cross-country with friends. On a recent trip in August 2005, Steve and John Wiemer ’77, both graduates of the building construction and design program, made a several-thousand-mile motorcycle trip that included a photo with their Harleys, wearing their JBU t-shirts.

Steve and John were close friends while attending JBU, and they look forward to catching up each year on their annual motorcycle trips. These trips have taken them to most of the lower 48 states in the past five years.

This year, they plan to take a trip up the coasts of California and Oregon with another alumni and friend while he is on furlough from the mission field in Africa. Steve keeps an extra motorcycle at home just so missionaries and friends can join him for road trips.

Steve told me that he would love to hear from any other alumni who have an interest in joining him and John in their excursions. Visit the online alumni directory for their contact information, or contact the alumni relations office at alumni@jbu.edu or (479) 524-7212.

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Stories from the Road

by Eric Greenhaw, Regional Director of Development

We’re now including wedding and birth announcements within the decade sections of the alumni notes. For publication in future issues, please send information and photos to JBU Alumni Relations, 2600 West University Street, Siloam Springs, AR 72761 attn: Alumni News. To submit your information online, go to www.jbu.edu/alumni. On the alumni web pages, you can find the most current classmate information, update your own information, learn about upcoming events, and read our standards for publishing alumni news in the magazine.

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Mind your own (and a JBU student’s) business!

Get involved in the JBU Career Network

When you become part of JBU’s Career Network, you can play a key role in guiding a student’s career path by connecting them with internship and job opportunities where you work.

To learn more, visit www.jbu.edu/alumni or contact:

Dan Noyes, Director of Career Development at (479) 524-7282

Jerry Rollene, Director of Alumni and Parent Relations at (479) 524-7212

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JBU Professor’s Journals Published

Excerpted from John Panage’s journal, The Panage Papers provides a fascinating view of the world during and after the Cold War through the eyes of this former JBU professor.

Get the special price of $15 by ordering from the publisher:

Moon Lake Publishing Co.  
14213 Lake Forest Heights  
Siloam Springs, Arkansas 72761

Also available at regular price from Amazon.com, BarnesandNoble.com, and Borders.com or in bookstores at John Brown University, Hastings in Springdale and Fayetteville, and Air Host at the Northwest Arkansas Airport.
from the
director’s desk

I still remember my surprise and delight when Dr. and Mrs. Gilbert showed up at our wedding on a cold, icy day in March 1979. Why did this former professor and his supportive wife drive 700-plus miles, one way, to northern Illinois to attend? Was it because we were so special? No, but because they were!

In honor of
Dr. Marc D. Gilbert
1913-2006

Soon after I arrived on campus for my freshman year, I met with this elderly but energetic, scholarly-looking man in his austere office on the second floor of the classroom wing of the Cathedral building. I can’t remember everything we talked about at that first meeting, but I do remember Dr. Gilbert saying to me, “Jerry, it doesn’t matter whether you have a problem with your studies, your faith, or girls, my office door is always open to you.” Then he chuckled ever so lightly behind that tight-lipped smile of his. And you know, he meant it!

Dr. Gilbert went home to be with the Lord in March this year. At Dr. Gilbert’s memorial service here in Siloam Springs, Travis Jones ’73 who spoke and Mark Cavender ’74 who sent a written tribute in his absence reminded me of the powerful, life-changing impact this dedicated professor had on so many of us who benefited from and endured his challenging method of teaching.

Those dreaded “10-point opportunities” (which others might call pop quizzes), Those on-the-spot questions in communications class like, “Jerry, can you please spell ‘entrepreneur’?” That immovable, elusive 94% needed for an A. Those devilish red pen markings on our papers. All these are memories of a man who taught as if our lives depended on his doing it right . . . and we are now glad he did.

“He] was without a doubt the toughest professor I ever had at JBU. He demanded more from us as students than I sometimes thought we were capable of giving,” Mark Cavender wrote.

“His love for students and their future still inspires me to this day. Dr. Gilbert was a man who finished the race with grace,” Travis Jones said.

You are invited to participate in a tribute to Dr. Gilbert by e-mailing me your own reflections of this man who taught us all so well. (My e-mail address is jrollene@jbu.edu.) We will add them to the alumni website where you can read Dr. Walters’s sermon from the memorial service, along with the remembrances of Travis and Mark (www.jbu.edu/alumni).

We are told, “Let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.” Surely, Dr. Gilbert inspired many to glorify our Father.

Jerry Rollene ’75
Director of Alumni and Parent Relations

In order to protect the privacy of JBU alumni and prevent the misuse of personal information on the Internet, we have deleted the alumni news from this online edition.

To help students afford a quality Christian education at JBU, there’s the JBU Scholarship Fund. For more information, or to give online, visit www.jbu.edu/giving or call (800) 446-2450.

Amount of time it took to graduate from JBU: 4 years
Cost of a JBU education: Quite a bit
Gratitude to those who gave to the JBU Scholarship Fund to make this moment possible: PRICELESS
In order to protect the privacy of JBU alumni and prevent the misuse of personal information on the Internet, we have deleted the alumni news from this online edition.

If so, you should consider being a part of the JBU Alumni Board!

Do you love being on the inside track?
Do you enjoy creating effective ways to help your classmates stay in touch?
Would you like to join other alumni staying actively engaged in the ongoing life of JBU?

Contact Shawn Toenyes, board president (s_toenyes@yahoo.com), or Jerry Rollene (jrollene@jbu.edu) right away, and we can talk more about what it means to serve on this dynamic board with people who experienced JBU throughout the decades.
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Transitions

Dr. Delia Haak is retiring after 21 years of service. She most recently served as associate professor of business, teaching in both the undergraduate and graduate programs. Haak helped design the programs for the M.S. in leadership and ethics and the MBA with an emphasis in leadership and ethics. Haak has been a recipient of JBU’s Golden Eagle Service Award, the Outstanding Alumnus Award, and the Outstanding Faculty Teaching Award. Haak received her bachelor’s degree from JBU and her MBA and Ed.D. from the University of Arkansas. Haak has served in the global ethics office of Wal-Mart, Inc., as an adjunct professor for Trinity Western University, as a member of the Arkansas Governor’s Taskforce for Workforce Development, in the White House Conference on Small Business, and as chaplain of the JBU Lady Eagles volleyball team.

Dr. Lisa Brandom is retiring this year from JBU after 18 years of dedicated service to the university and the English department. Brandom served as adjunct English instructor, associate professor of English, registrar, associate dean for institutional research, associate academic dean, and chair of the English department. She graduated in 1969 from the University of Mississippi with a degree in English and social studies and continued there to earn her M.Ed. in secondary English education. Brandom earned her Ed.D. in higher education with an emphasis in administration and English. While working at JBU, Brandom played an essential role in starting many programs, including the Army ROTC program and online registration. In 2004, Brandom founded Moon Lake Publishing Company to help first-time writers find an opportunity to be published.

Dr. Robert Burns retired this year after serving JBU for 31 years. Burns served JBU as professor of education and physical education for 31 years, division chair of health and physical education for 27 years, and director of athletics for 25 years. He is a two-time NAIA Region VI Athletics Director of the Year recipient. Burns successfully laid the foundation for the establishment of gender equality throughout the athletics program with the addition of many of the women’s programs. He also served as the NAIA region VI chair for six years and was a founding member of the taskforce that developed and implemented the NAIA Champions of Character program.

Class of 1996
10 Year Reunion
Homecoming 2006
October 6-7
You’re Always Home at JBU!
In order to protect the privacy of JBU alumni and prevent the misuse of personal information on the Internet, we have deleted the alumni news from this online edition.
In Loving Memory

Edie Maxine (Oakes) Ambler ’39 passed away on January 29, 2006. Her husband, two older brothers, sister, two sons, and one nephew all attended JBU.

Erik S. Barnett ’29 went home to be with his Lord on January 22, 2006 at the age of 95. He was survived by his six children: Charles, Stanley, Paul, John, Elizabeth, and Carolyn.

Michael Crain ’70 passed from this world on June 29, 2005 following a car accident. After graduating from JBU, he taught and coached in Winfield, Missouri. He was drafted by the Pittsburgh Pirates in 1971, and was married to Garita Lippes after his release from the Pirates later that year. He coached and taught school for 34 years. He is survived by his wife, five children, and two grandchildren.

Dr. Marc D. Gilbert went to be with his Lord and Savior Jesus Christ on March 8, 2006, at the age of 92. Born May 19, 1913, he had been a committed Christian since age 12. He was known in Clearwater, Kansas, as the Kansas champion speller during grade school, high school, and college. He served on the Kansas High School championship debating team and was class valedictorian. He received a B.S. in education and a B.S. in commerce from Kansas State Teachers College in 1939. In 1940 he completed the master’s degree in law and business from the University of Denver. In 1964 he was awarded his Ed.D. from the University of Tulsa. He was a CPA and worked in the accounting field for many years.

His teaching reached from a rural school in Kansas to high schools in Kansas and graduate schools in Texas. His primary college teaching was at JBU where he served as chair of the business and social studies departments.

In Siloam Springs, he ministers as pastor and Sunday school teacher at Niochesan Community Church, Grace Bible Church, Norwood Church, and Siloam Springs Bible Church. He was preceded in death by his wife of over 64 years. He is survived by his son Dean Bruce Gilbert and his wife Shamon and two grandchildren.

Kay Fowler, widow of JBU trustee emeritus Clinton Fowler ’42, passed away on April 7, 2006 in Medina, OH. She is survived by her stepdaughter Deborah (Fowler) Hess ’68.

Mary Lee (Davis Williams) Freeman ’70 passed away on April 21, 2005 in Colorado Springs, CO. She is survived by her husband Dal Freeman, two children, and two grandchildren.

Harris Gregory ’40 went to be with his Lord and Savior on February 7, 2006. He and his wife were in missionary service for 33 years, working in Brazil, the Bahamas, Miami, and Mexico.

Helmfred R. Hokanson Jr. ’62 went home to be with the Lord on March 5, 2006.

Kathryn (Spivey) Jackson ’34, went to be with the Lord on December 27, 2003. Kathryn met her husband, Robert Jackson ’33, while at JBU. She and Robert faithfully supported JBU during their 71-year marriage. Robert served on the Board of Trustees from 1937 to 1985, and Kathryn served on the parent’s council from 1954 to 1959 while their two children, Robert Jackson Jr. ’58 and Janelle (Jackson) Decker ’61 attended JBU.

Kathryn, most recently of Austin, Texas, was an accomplished seamstress and was very active in church, civic, and charitable organizations. During their retirement, Kathryn and Robert traveled extensively with their Silver Streak Trailer Club.

Kathryn is survived by her husband, her son and his wife Wanda, her daughter and stepfather, her mother and stepfather, her brother and sister-in-law, Lance Seiffert ’55 and Lisa K. Seiffert.

Linda Morris, former JBU employer, lost her battle with cancer on March 26, 2005. Linda worked as circulation assistant from 1955 to 2008.

Elizabeth Reeves Reid ’36 passed away on February 12, 2006 at the age of 91.

Myrtle Lew Sawyer ’44 passed away on September 30, 2005.

Paul Whitmore ’47, former music department faculty member, passed away January 17, 2006. In addition to his work at JBU, he was a piano technician, church music director, and music supervisor in Siloam Springs. He is survived by his wife Viola (Walton) Whitmore ’50, their children Eugene Whitmore ’74, Paula Phillips ’78, who serves as the JBU University Relations. Ernest Whitmore ’80, the advising coordinator at JBU, and Marcia Wallace ’83, six grandchildren, and one great-grandchild.

Ella May Mason, former art professor, passed away March 24, 2006. She taught at JBU from 1959 to 1973.

Karine (Seiffert) Molloy ’92. After a strong and courageous battle of seven years with breast cancer, Karine passed away peacefully on February 21, 2006.

After graduating from JBU, Karine earned her MBA in insurance risk management from St. Thomas College in St. Paul, Minnesota while employed with the Hays Group of Minnmetal, an insurance brokerage and risk management consulting firm. Karine enjoyed consulting and extensive travel for work, pleasure, and visits to friends and family.

During her battle with cancer, Karine became increasingly aware of a great purpose to her life and the extreme value of friends, family, and faithfulness to God. Even when doctors had given up hope of her survival, Karine continued to bless others with her strong spirit and cheerful attitude. Karine is survived by her father and stepmother, her mother and stepfather, her brother and sister-in-law, Lance Seiffert ’55 and Lisa K. Seiffert.

Karine was committed to helping others. She and her husband, Steve Molloy, were in full-time ministry with the Hays Group of Minnmetal as insurance brokers and risk management consultants. She and her husband have traveled extensively throughout the United States and Mexico.

Karine loved and respected her husband, Steve Molloy, and their two sons, Paul and Todd.

Karine was preceded in death by her husband. She is survived by her mother, Mrs. Kathy Jackson, and her husband, Steve Molloy, and their two sons, Paul and Todd.

In Loving Memory

Earl P. Stovall went to be with his Lord on January 19, 2006 at the age of 89. He is survived by his wife, two sons, and one daughter.

Earl was married to his wife for 64 years. He is survived by his wife, two sons, and one daughter.

In Memory of Karine (Seiffert) Molloy ’92.

Karine served as a financial advisor at JBU for 71 years. She was a dedicated employee and played a significant role in the success of the university.

Karine was preceded in death by her husband, Steve Molloy, and their two sons, Paul and Todd.

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Benefits of a JBU Charitable Gift Annuity

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3. FIXED INCOME. Your payment rate will be locked in at the time you obtain your gift annuity.

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JOHN BROWN UNIVERSITY

* Rates will vary depending upon age and number of beneficiaries.
You’re always home at JBU
Homecoming 2006

October 6th - 7th

- Alumni Career Fair on Friday
- Soccer and Volleyball Games and Rugby Match
- Showcase Dinner and Alumni Performances
- A Sensitive Comedy by the Drama Team: “The Curious Savage”
- Class of ’56 Fifty Year Reunion as well as reunions for ’61, ’66, ’71, ’76, ’81, ’86, ’91, ’96, and ’01