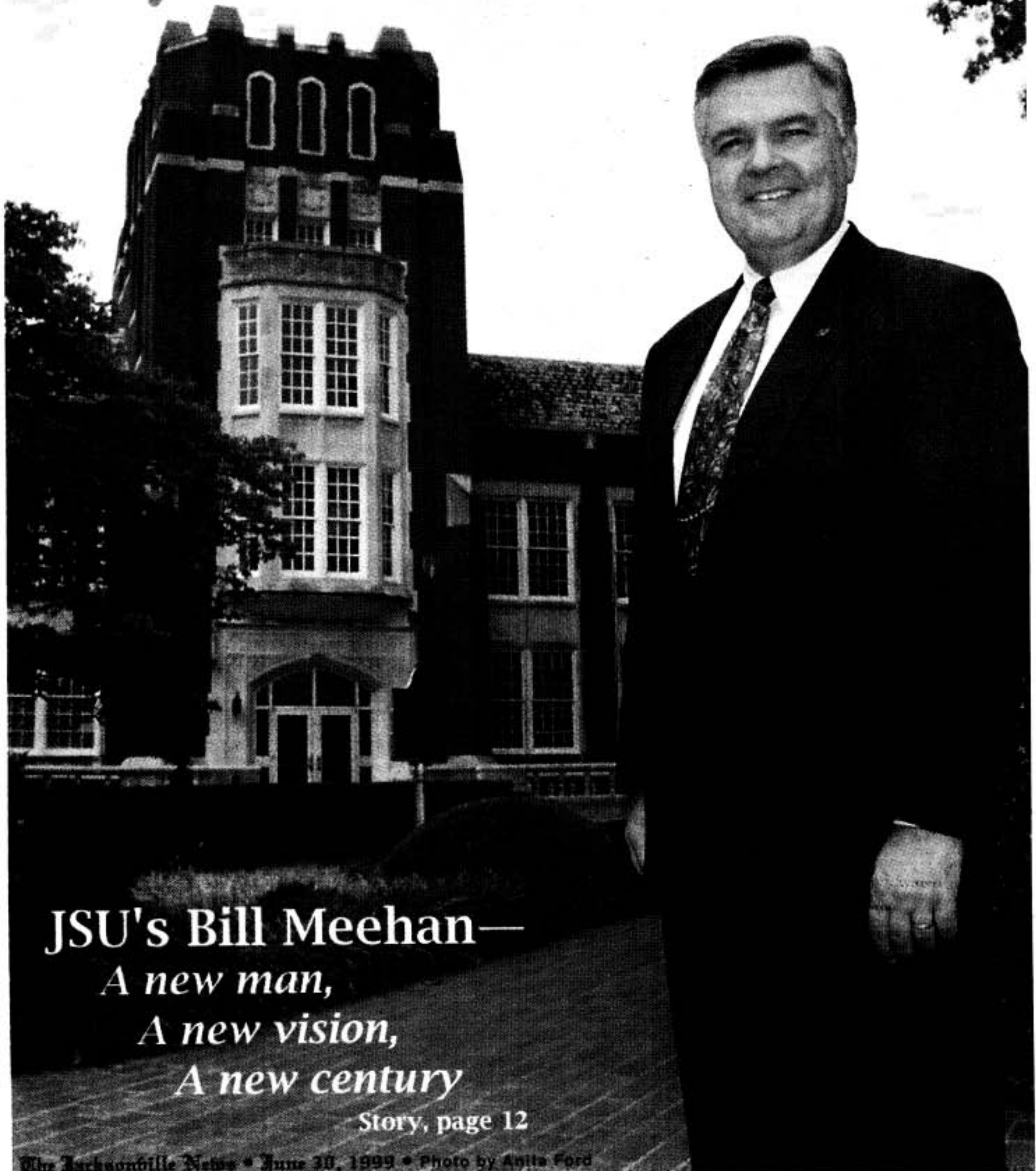


Beyond the Tower



JSU's Bill Meehan—
*A new man,
A new vision,
A new century*

Story, page 12

Those who have led ~
Jacksonville State Normal School
 1883-1929
Jacksonville Teachers College
 1929-1957
Jacksonville State College
 1957-1966
Jacksonville State University
 1966-1999



First president
James Gazaway Ryals, Jr.
 1883-1885
 No photo available

Photos courtesy
 Jacksonville State University



J. Harris Chappell, 1885-86



Carleton Bartlett Gibson, 1886-92



Houston Cole, 1942-71



Ernest Stone, 1971-81

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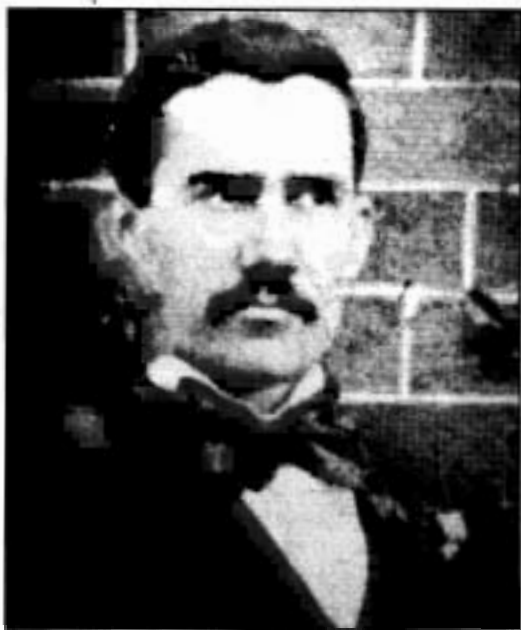
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Jacob Forney IV, 1893-99



Clarence William Dugette, 1899-1942



Theron E. Montgomery, Jr., 1981-86



Harold J. McGee, 1986-99



William A. Meehan, 1999-

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OFFICE OF
THE PRESIDENT

TELEPHONE: (904) 782-5881

May 14, 1999

Mr. William A. Meehan
President Elect
Jacksonville State University
Jacksonville, Alabama 36265

Dear Bill:

Congratulations upon your appointment as the eleventh President of Jacksonville State University.

I wish every success and happiness to you and to your family as you begin this exciting and rewarding period in your career.

Our University is a special place with both an outstanding one hundred and fifteen-year heritage and an exceptional promise for its future. The best years will occur during the new millenium, and your leadership and long time commitment to the University will chart an excellent agenda for a most successful beginning for that future.

Best wishes.

Sincerely,

Harold J. McGee
President

HJM/ll



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Dr. Theron E. Montgomery
P. O. Box 72
Jacksonville, Alabama 36265

July 1, 1999

Mr. William A. Meehan, President
Jacksonville State University
Jacksonville, AL 36265

Dear President Meehan:

Let me join with your many friends and congratulate you and the University upon your selection as President of Jacksonville State University.

You as a student at the University have been a recipient of its teachings, as a member of its staff you have been a part of its services, now you have the opportunity to carry it on a mission for excellence in the new century.

Sincerely,

Theron E. Montgomery
President Emeritus
Jacksonville State University



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William A. "Bill" Meehan

Jacksonville State University's 11th President



The Directors, Officers and Staff of SouthTrust Bank, for 116 years Calhoun County's leading financial institution, pledge their continued support of Jacksonville State University, President Meehan, the faculty and staff as they continue their 116-year tradition of excellence in education.

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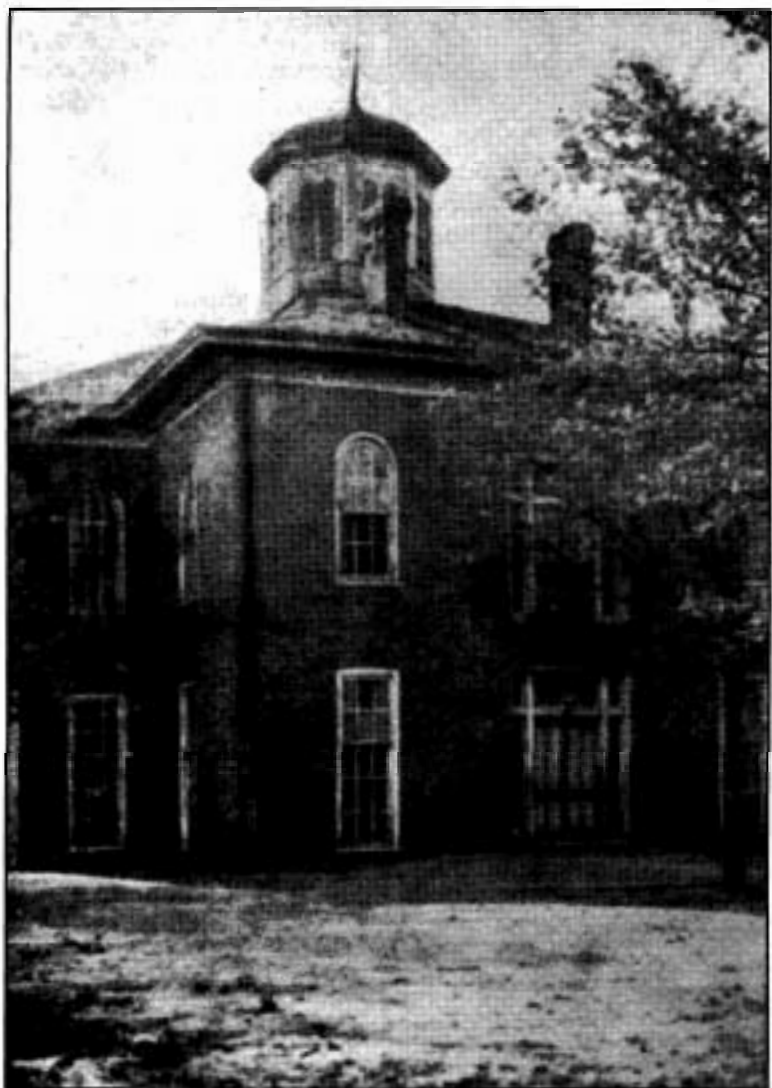
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Saluting A Tradition Of Excellence

The tradition of excellence at Jacksonville State University is a source of community pride. As a member of the Jacksonville community, AmSouth hopes to encourage proud traditions and joins the University in welcoming Bill Meehan as the new President of Jacksonville State.

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The old Calhoun College building, the first on the State Normal School campus, was built by the issuance of stock and valued at \$16,000 when the property was given to the State Normal School in 1883.

Early normal school evolves into state educational center

From modest beginnings, Jacksonville State University has evolved into the educational center of northeast Alabama. The Alabama Legislature in the 1882-83 session created a state normal school when Gov. Edward O'Neal signed into law a bill creating the school on Feb. 22, 1883.

Jacksonville State Normal School acquired the facilities and equipment of Calhoun College, consisting of 12 acres of land and a two-story brick building. The board of directors elected James C. Ryals Jr., as the first president. The school opened with three instructors: W. J. Borden, Mathematics; Eliza A. Bowen, English; and Ida J. Woodward, primary department.

As stipulated in the establishing act, the Normal School conducted a preparatory school for children of the town and surrounding areas. At the end of the first year, on Aug. 15, 1884, William Mark Haymes, president of the board of directors, reported that funds totaling \$4,751.25 had been received, including \$2,500 from the state, that 25 students were enrolled in the Normal School, and that 222 were in the preparatory school.

The Normal School remained in operation until 1930 when it became Jacksonville State Teachers College, reflecting an increasing higher education role for the institution. Five years later, the college earned regional accreditation from the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. In 1957, the name again changed, to Jacksonville State College, when the first graduate program — the master's degree in elementary education — was created.

On Aug. 2, 1966, the legislature authorized the State Board of Education to elevate the college to university status. On Aug. 17, 1967, the legislature established an independent board of trustees for the university and divested jurisdiction from the State Board of Education.

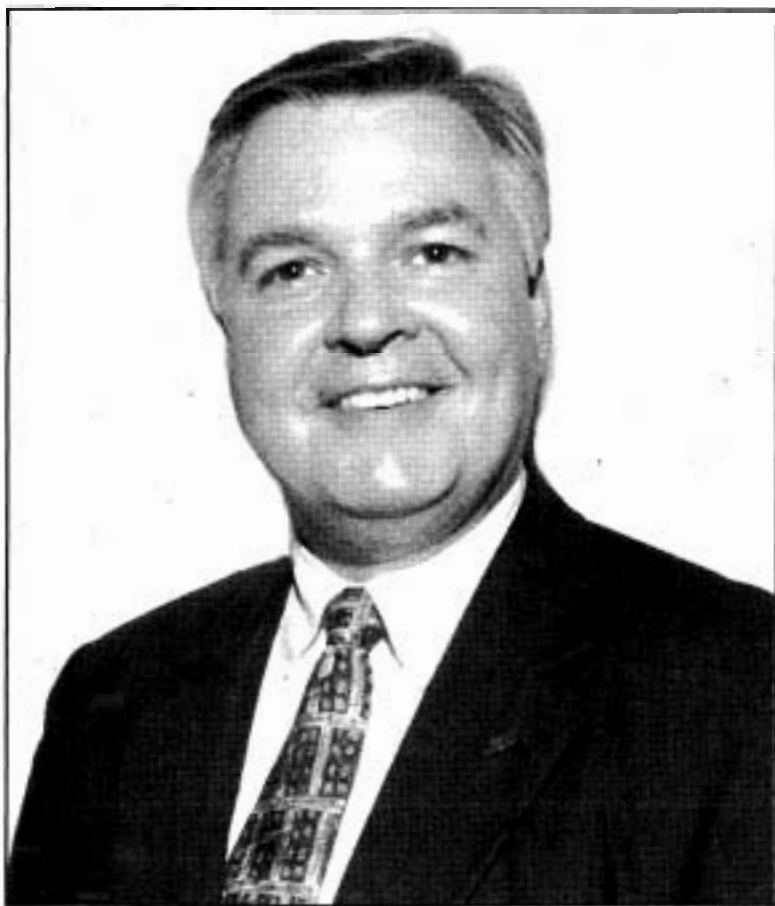
JSU has been served by 10 presidents: James G. Ryals, Jr. (1883-85), J. Harris Chappel (1885-86), Carlton Bartlett Gibson (1886-92), J. B. Jarrett (1892-1893), Jacob Forney IV (1893-1899), Clarence William Daugette (1899-1942), Houston Cole (1942-1971), Ernest Stone (1971-1981), Theron E. Montgomery (1981-1986), and Harold J. McGee (1986-present).

JSU has developed into a modern regional university serving northeast Alabama on a 318-acre campus with 58 buildings. In addition, the university operates off-campus centers; JSU-Gadsden, Fort McClellan, Anniston, and Oxford. Through its programs of teaching, research, and service, JSU has served the region and state for more than 100 years.

Charles Edwards & Associates Extend To

WILLIAM A. (BILL) MEEHAN

**Best wishes as you lead
Jacksonville State University
into the *new millennium*.**



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Congratulations!
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President
Jacksonville State University



Allan Pace, manager of Compass' Jacksonville Office congratulates Bill Meehan

The officers and staff join David Braithwaite, President, Compass Bank, Calhoun County, in offering Bill Meehan and Jacksonville State University their support and best wishes for success into the 21st Century.



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Congratulations, Bill Meehan and JSU

Bill Meehan is a path to the future
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Welcome, JSU President Bill Meehan



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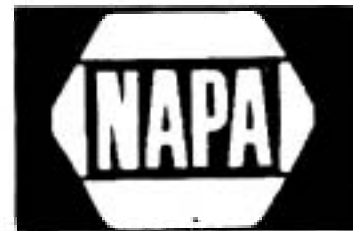
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Jim Bennett	Homewood	Sixth
Jim Folsom	Cullman	Seventh
James D. Thorton	Huntsville	Eighth

* Ed Richardson, State Superintendent of Education,
Ex officio Don Siegelman, Governor of Alabama: President

Quality education serves as JSU's primary focus

Jacksonville State University, located in Jacksonville, Alabama, is a state-supported, regional, coeducational institution. Since its founding in 1883 as an institution to prepare teachers, the university's primary mission has been to provide quality education to the citizens of Alabama by integrating traditional academic pursuits with career-oriented programs at reasonable costs.

Drawing students from northeast Alabama, the university is committed to providing a wide variety of undergraduate programs to a diverse population that includes many first-generation college students. In addition to making higher educa-

tion accessible to diverse segments of our society, the university provides the supporting services that students need to achieve a quality educational experience.

The university offers a breadth of undergraduate programs in the traditional arts and sciences and in professional fields. Graduate programs that emphasize applied and professional studies or preparation for entry into doctoral study are offered at the master's and educational specialist's levels.

To meet its educational mission, the university seeks to employ, retain, and develop faculty who are scholars distinguished by their commitment to, and skills in, teach-

ing. The university is committed to providing appropriate instructional facilities and resources to assure that students have experience with the most recent technology. Continual evaluation of programs assures that the curriculum is timely and relevant and that the programs effectively meet their educational goals.

The university provides its knowledge, skills, and resources to the community and industry of northeast Alabama.

The university also supports research and scholarly activities which complement its educational and public service purposes.

Best Wishes Mr. Bill Meehan!! President, Jacksonville State University



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Beyond the tower

Community is focus of Meehan's vision

"We can't just be an ivory tower behind the border of the campus. We have to reach out to our community and let them know that higher education is here for the people of Alabama."

— Bill Meehan, upon his appointment as the 11th president of Jacksonville State University, April 19, 1999

By Angie Ayers Finley
News Staff Writer

Early in his candidacy for the presidency of Jacksonville State University, Bill Meehan said that leadership is not just making sure things are done right, it is making sure that the right things are done.

Tomorrow, Meehan will put that statement to the test as he succeeds Dr. Harold McGee, who is retiring after 13 years as head of the "Friendliest Campus in the South."

Since his appointment by the board of trustees on April 19, Meehan admits that life has changed somewhat for his family. In addition to his own efforts toward completing his doctorate this summer as opposed to

December as originally planned, the Meehans are adjusting to a full calendar and the balancing act that accompanies being the university's first family.

But by looking at his children—Will, Drew and Carol Grace—Meehan is reminded of his commitment to the job ahead and a vision that will see JSU into the new century—the century in which his children will grow, learn and work.

"The vision I have is a new community for the next century, an institution that reaches out to its community," Meehan reiterated last week as he spent his final Thursday as JSU's Acting Vice President for Institutional Advancement.

"We're already doing a good bit of that at JSU with distance learning and those types of things. But, we need a community that works together with other colleges, universities and community colleges, because that is where a large part of our students are going to come from."

According to Meehan, the Western Interstate Commission on Higher Education has projected that by the year 2007, Alabama growth for 18 year olds is only going to be one percent, while Georgia is going to grow by 24 percent. Although the number of incoming students is not expected to rise much in our state, Meehan insists that JSU will need to tap into those resources that are just across the border. Furthermore, Meehan believes that students who are coming from two year schools looking to complete a four year program will be another growing market. For that, it is imperative that JSU establish good working relationships with other two and four year institutions, and learn to market itself.

"We need to position the university, we need to take a look at our environment and the type of students we want to attract to the university and find ways to reach out to them and communicate with them," he explains.

"We also need to let the public know about that, because about 38 percent of the funds for this university are from the taxpayer's appropriations. We need to show the pub-



Jacksonville State University First Lady Gayle Meehan and her husband, Bill Meehan, shortly after his appointment as president.

lic that we're being good stewards of funds, and that we're working together with other public institutions, not competing them to provide higher education services. Meehan says that while JSU will serve students, the university also needs to work with other educational institutions to ensure that programs aren't duplicated, and that there is a seamless learning program for students from pre-kindergarten all the way up to graduate programs.

"We need that in Alabama," he says. "What kind of JSU can we expect for Drew and Carol Grace's generation?"

That, too, is part of Meehan's vision. "I believe universities are going to

become much more open in terms of breaking down the barriers of time and distance. I believe in the things that we've done in distance education, providing our compressed video option, and our courses by cassette."

"Is it going to take away the traditional classroom with the teacher in front of it? No, that's still gonna be there. It's always gonna be there because there are some people who just won't be able to get the discipline to learn in any other way. That's one option. These others are options for people who can't get to the campus to do those things. There's a variety of ways to offer instruction.

By breaking down those barriers, Meehan adds, universities like JSU can be more in touch with another community—the

"The vision is a new century for the next century. An institution that reaches out to its community."



Anita Ford

The Meehans— Bill, Beth and children (from left) Will, Drew and Carol Grace— pose for a family portrait.

The Meehan File:

Personal

William Andrew Meehan
 Native of Connecticut
 Son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Meehan of Springville
 Married to Beth Stevens Meehan
 Three children—Twin sons, Will and Drew, age 5; and Carol Grace, age five months

Education

University of Alabama, Higher Education Administration, Ed.D. expected by end of 1999
 Jacksonville State University, M.S., Biology, 1976
 Jacksonville State University, B.S., Biology, 1972

Administrative, Teaching Experience Post Secondary Level

1998 - Present: Acting Vice President for Institutional Advancement, JSU
 1988-1998: Associate Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs, JSU
 1992-1993: Acting Vice President for Academic Affairs, JSU
 1982-1988: Assistant to the Vice President for Academic Affairs, JSU
 1979-1982: Director of Academic Advisement, JSU
 1977-1979: Coordinator of Medical Technology, JSU
 1977: Instructor of Biology, JSU

Courses Taught at JSU

General Biology, BY 101 and BY 102
 General Biology Laboratory, BY 103 and BY 104
 Human Anatomy and Physiology, BY 321

Other Administrative Experience

1974-1979: Credit representative, Motion Industries, Inc., Accounting Division
Secondary Level Teaching Experience
 1972-1974: High school instructor of biology and earth science.

University Committees: Standing

Chair, Development Council, 1998-Present
 Chair, Printing and Publications Committee, 1998-Present
 Member, Athletic Council, 1998-Present
 Member, Budget Committee, 1998-Present, 1996-97, 1992-93
 Member, University Communications Board, 1998-Present
 Member, Faculty Forum for Effective Teaching, 1991-1998
 Member, Registration Review Committee, 1989-1998
 Ex-Officio, Professional Development Committee, 1988-1998
 Secretary/Member, Academic Council, 1983-1998
 Member, Enrollment Management Task Force, 1993-94
 Member, Athletic Council, 1992-93
 Member, Development Council, 1992-93
 Member, Printing and Publications Committee, 1992-93
 Member, Financial Aid Committee, 1983-86

University Committees: Ad Hoc

Chair, Men's Head Basketball Search Committee, 1998
 Member, Panel Review Committee (Program Review Task Force, Academic Affairs), 1996

Chair, Program Review Task Force, Subcommittee for Institutional advancement Division, 1994-95
 Member, Core Curriculum Review Committee, 1994-95
Member, In-Service Center Governing Board, 1989-94
 Member, Distance Learning Committee, 1994
 Chair, Capital Campaign, Administrative Gifts Division, 1994-95
 Member, **In-Service Center Advisory/Steering Committee, 1984-86**
 Chair, Institutional Self-Study Steering Committee, **Principal Committee on Principles and Philosophy of Accreditation and Institutional Purpose, Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, 1993**
 Chair, Faculty Handbook Revision Committee, 1990-92
Chair, Search Committee, Department Head of History, 1990
 Chair, Financial Aid Appeals Committee, 1984-90
 Chair, Presidential Task Force for University Governance, 1987-88
 Member, Presidential Task Force of Institutional Purpose, 1987-88
 Chair, Presidential Task Force for Academic Programs, 1986-87
 Member, Committee on Campus Police/Security, 1984-85
 Chair, Institutional Self-Study Steering Committee, Standard VII Committee, Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, 1981-83

Service to Campus and Civic

Executive Committee Member, Board of Directors, United Way of East Central Alabama, 1995-present
 Chair, Vice Chair, and Member, Personnel Committee, First Baptist Church, Jacksonville, 1995-98
 Member, Calhoun Metropolitan Planning Organization's Citizens Advisory Committee, 1994
 Member, Calhoun County Chamber of Commerce, Transportation Committee, 1992-present
 Member, Calhoun County Chamber of Commerce, Board Member 1990-92
 Member, Calhoun County Chamber of Commerce, **Leadership Calhoun County graduate, 1989, Board Member, 1990-92**
 Secretary, Member, Board of Directors, Exchange Club of Jacksonville, Newsletter Editor, Scholarship Committee Chair, Youth Committee Chair, 1979-present
 Member, Mayor's Joint Committee for Zoning, Fraternities, City of Jacksonville, 1987
Member, Mayor's Joint Committee on Noise, City of Jacksonville, 1984
 Faculty Advisor, Inter fraternity Council, 1979-1987
 Secretary/Treasurer, Alumni Board of Trustees, and Faculty Advisor, Delta Chi Fraternity, 1978-present
Grants and Contracts
 Meehan has worked on 15 grants and contracts for JSU, for a total of more than \$1.5 million. The largest of these was a federal grant, Department of Education, Title III, five year funding for academic and student services, prepared with Dr. Alice Cusimano and Dr. Claudia McDade, for \$1.2 million. It was awarded for 1998-2003.

Professional Development Activities



Angie Ayers Finley

Meehan receives congratulations shortly after being appointed the eleventh president of JSU.

"Outreach" Council for the Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) Conference, University of Michigan, 1998.
 "Higher Education and the Law" Conference, University of Georgia, 1991, 1992, 1993, and 1995.
 "Teach America II: Implementing Teacher Education Reform" American Association of State Colleges and Universities, Washington, D.C., 1993.
 "Pursuit of Excellence Quality Seminar" Milliken and Co., Spartanburg, S.C., June 1992
 "Self-Study Seminar: Institutional Effectiveness for Institutions Engaging in Self-Studies During 1991-93," Commission on Colleges, Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, Atlanta, Georgia, 1990
 Institute for the Management of Lifelong Education, Harvard Graduate School of Education, June 1983.
 Consultant, Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, Advisement, Orientation and Registration, 1981 and 1982.
 Chair, CREATIVE RETIREMENT, YOUR CHALLENGE NOW, University of Alabama, Division of Continuing Education, November 1981.
 Chair, A NEW STUDENT ORIENTATION PROGRAM, Alabama Personnel and Guidance Association, November 1980.

Professional Organizations: Current and Past Membership

National Association of Industrial Technology, current
 American Association of University Administrators, current
 Omicron Delta Kappa, current
 Society for College and University Planning, past
 National Academic Advising Association, past.
 National Orientation Director Association, past.
Honors
 Most Outstanding Student in Administration of Higher Education, Spring 1987, College of Education, University of Alabama
 Faculty Research and Service Award, 1984-85.



Angie Ayers Finley

Angie Ayers Finley, left, congratulates the University's future president after Meehan's appointment in April.

...ls of those which they reside.
 ...gether with "Colleges cannot be communities isolated
 ...peting with from the community in which they serve.
 ...services." They have to be active in the community,
 ...ill seek out they have to be visible, their services have
 ...ls to work to be tied to where the community is going.
 ...s to make You have to really look at what the univer-
 ...ted, and sity has to offer, much like a utility. Like
 ...program for electricity and gas, education is a utility that
 ...ll the way is necessary for the labor force today.
 ...e says. Jacksonville State University's mission, as
 ...ect for Will, is clearly stated in our catalog, says that we
 ...on? provide quality education in traditional aca-
 ...vision. demic programs, merging them with career-
 ...g to help our future graduates get jobs, so they

*vision I have
 v community
 next century,
 tution that
 out to its
 nity."*

...tte." education programs remain strong. In addition,
 ...tal, tradi- he hopes that new programs, such as
 ...r in front of the university's partnership to offer graduate
 ...It's courses in nursing and defense preparedness
 ...here are partnerships with the Department of Justice,
 ...able to have will continue to develop.
 ...er way. Immediately, the issues of future funding
 ...are options and preparation for the university's reac-
 ...ampus to creditation by the Southern Association of
 ...y of ways to Colleges and Schools will be foremost on
 ...ers, Meehan the new president's mind.

...JSU is scheduled to conduct its self-study
 ...e more in in 2003.
 ...- the one in

Congratulations, Bill Meehan and JSU

*Our best wishes,
Mr. Meehan*



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Bill Meehan
JSU, Class of '72

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and your elevation
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*We look forward to our
years together.*

*Good luck to you, Beth, Drew,
Will and Carol Grace.*



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Close To You



Wife and mother Beth Meehan gets new title:

FIRST Lady of JSU

When Gayle McGee became first lady of Jacksonville State University in 1986, Kitty Stone, a former first lady, told *The Jacksonville News*, "She has a young son which I think makes her life very interesting."

Beth Meehan — the university's incoming first lady — has two young sons and an even younger daughter. And she says she is definitely expecting an interesting life for herself as well as her family in the coming years. Her husband, Bill, succeeds retiring president Dr. Harold McGee.

"I feel I have been preparing for this position all of my life," says Mrs. Meehan. "I was reared in a pastor's home and realize all of the aspects of living in a 'glass house.' My mother was very effective in teaching my three brothers and me that it is very important to be ourselves."

Mrs. Meehan says that this, plus the fact that she has been closely associated with four different universities, has given her a broad range of ideas in which to incorporate at JSU.

She says she has told her husband that he is lucky because he has a job description and she does not. "I will do my best to be a hostess for Jacksonville State University, a school I love," she says. "But I will also do my best to maintain our family life. Our family is the most important thing in our lives. All I have ever wanted to be is a wife and a mother."

She says that her husband and her children are her priorities and that she will do her best to keep these priorities while becoming involved in the events of the university. She says they have already taken their children to many events on campus, and she feels they will have a wonderful opportunity to live on a college campus and take advantage of all of the activities.

The Meehans will move out of their home and into the president's home on campus. They had an option of remaining in their home, but they chose to move.

"Bill wants to be a part of the campus as much as he can," she says. "That's why we chose to make it home for ourselves and our children. I believe my husband will be a wonderful president," she says. "He is a great listener and a wonderful manager. He also loves Jacksonville State University with a passion. I know all the decisions he will make whether popular or unpopular will be made with JSU's best interest at heart."

The Meehan children are twin boys, Drew and Will, 5, and Carol Grace, 5 months.

While Mrs. Meehan and her family know where they will reside and what they will be doing, that's not the situation with Gayle McGee and her family.

She and her husband are looking at several locations around the country and says that they will stay in their home here until they reach a decision.

"We will stay here until we get our house sold," she says. "We have looked around at several places but we won't make a final decision until we sell our property here. We have no firm plans. That is the wonderful thing about it."

Mrs. McGee was no stranger to university life when she moved here. Her husband resigned as vice president of administration at James Madison University in Virginia to become JSU president on July 1, 1986.

She says that moving from Harrisonburg, Va., with their 4-year-old son, Andrew, in 1986 was exciting, difficult and challenging.

She says that her life changed completely when Dr. McGee became JSU president.

"Everything becomes so public," she says. "You don't have any privacy, particularly when you live on campus, and we lived on campus the entire time. You accept it as part of the job and we knew that."

She says she read everything she could get her hands on and talked with women whose husbands were or had been university presidents.

"What I tried to do was build up a family life in the setting," she says. "We tried to make a normal family situation and hopefully we succeeded at that."

When Ada Montgomery learned that her husband, (Dr.) Theron, had been appointed JSU president in 1981, she says she was excited, thrilled and very comfortable with his appointment because JSU was the only employer either of them have ever had.

Another JSU president, the late Dr. Houston Cole, hired both the Montgomerys — she as dietician and Dr. Montgomery as sociology teacher.

She says that being associated with the university and the city for so many years made the transition to first lady easier for her.

"We knew the situation," she says. "We knew the students, the faculty and the town. Our children had grown up here."

The biggest change for her was leaving their home and moving on campus.

"We took it in stride," says Mrs. Montgomery, "because we were familiar with the president's role. My husband had come up through the ranks."

She says that her husband literally worked his way up at the university — from teacher, to dean, to vice president of academic affairs and to president. And she was by his side all along, helping rear their two children and



Anita Ford

Beth Meehan

enjoying every moment of her life as the university's first lady.

Since his retirement, Mrs. Montgomery says they have been as busy as ever.

Her husband has worked with International Executive Service Corporation which has involved travel for both the Montgomerys. They have gone as consultants to schools in, among other places, Costa Rica, Russia and Panama.

With the arrival of their four grandchildren, she says, "We have found out what life is all about."

The late Dr. Ernest Stone was JSU president from 1971-81. His widow, Kitty, was in education for a number of years and was principal of Jacksonville Laboratory El-

Leone Cole focused on home for JSU presidents

The person responsible for planning the home in which five Jacksonville State University presidents would reside, and was herself a first lady of the school, never had a chance to live there herself. She died one month before its completion in 1949.

Leone Pruett and Houston Cole, president from 1942-71, met while attending Jacksonville State Normal School. It is said that Mrs. Cole served as a gracious hostess and contributed to the social life of the town and many activities on the campus.

A native of Boaz, she was a graduate of Jacksonville State Normal School and the University of Alabama.

An editorial in *The Anniston Star* referred to her as "the ideal college president's wife."

Leone Cole Auditorium at JSU was named in her honor.



The president's home on Trustee Circle on the JSU campus



Leone Cole



Gayle McGee



Ada Montgomery



Kitty Stone



Martha Cole

elementary School — now Kitty Stone Elementary School — named for her.

Mrs. Stone says that JSU has always held a special place in her heart because she, her husband, their son, Bill, and daughter-in-law, Sandra, are all JSU graduates.

She recalls the condition of their new home on campus and the necessary changes she made to make it more comfortable.

"The heating system was completely out," she says. "The Coles (Dr. Houston and his wife, Martha) used electric heaters to finish out the winter."

Mrs. Stone says they had to have a new roof, and they replaced the window units with central air conditioning. She bought material wholesale and covered furniture and drapes. They built a garden room on the front and a

breakfast room on the porch which they glassed in.

She says that Dr. Stone's tenure as president was a special time for her family.

"In some ways," she says, "it brought us closer together."

Because both she and her husband had been in the spotlight of public education for many years, she was accustomed to entertaining, speaking before audiences, and meeting lots of people.

As JSU's first lady, she found herself entertaining more than ever. "I was accustomed to it, and I enjoyed it," she says. She prepared food at their campus home for all of the JSU trustees, faculty, press and others before all of the ballgames."

After Dr. Stone's retirement, he became ill, and Mrs. Stone found herself caring for him,

while still trying to remain active in educational and civic organizations.

It wasn't an easy time, she recalls. Dr. Stone had open heart surgery before his retirement. He died of leukemia on Feb 7, 1989.

Education continues to be on her list of priorities. She serves on boards and is a member of clubs dedicated to education.

Dr. Cole was president from 1942-71. His widow, Martha, who died in March, told *The Jacksonville News* in 1986 that she never had an unpleasant moment while her husband was president. As a matter of fact, she said she had many wonderful memories of her years of residing in the president's home on the JSU campus.

"I never did find that it was difficult in any way," she said. "There were no drawbacks at

all. It was a very, very pleasant experience."

When the McGees moved here, Mrs. Cole gave moral support to Mrs. McGee, both privately and publicly.

"She (Mrs. McGee) will, in her own way, be an asset to JSU," Mrs. Cole said. "We have to be ourselves and be able to make our own decisions, and I know that Mrs. McGee is certainly capable of making such decisions."

Had Mrs. Cole lived three months longer, she could have applied those words to Mrs. Meehan.

"We have to be ourselves and be able to make our own decisions, and I know that Mrs. Meehan is certainly capable of making such decisions."



Annie Daugette

Annie Daugette contributed vision to school

"The new teacher arrived yesterday, Mr. Daugette," wrote the mother of Annie Rowan Forney. "Mr. Wright brought him around last night. He is very, very tall and slim, not handsome, but has fine eyes and a cleft chin which always shows character, is quiet and rather dignified. I don't think Mr. Wright need fear him as a rival in the hearts of the girls."

Not such flattering words for the man who would become her son-in-law and president of Jacksonville State Normal School, later Jacksonville State College.

Shortly after returning to Jacksonville from New York City where she studied at Cooper Union and the National Academy of Design, where she won the coveted Elliott Medal for the best drawing of heads, Annie Rowan Forney met Daugette. They married on Dec. 22, 1897, and she began a career of community and statewide service.

A 1893 graduate of Jacksonville State Normal School, Mrs. Daugette not only was the wife of a president, her brother, Jacob Forney IV was president from 1893-99. Her father taught there.

Mrs. Daugette came from a prominent family who was instrumental in the shaping of America.

Her family tree included a president of the First Continental Congress, Henry Middleton; Edward Rutledge and Arthur Middleton, both signers of the Declaration

of Independence; Gen. Peter Forney of Revolutionary War fame; and her father, Gen. John H. Forney, who scored a remarkable record in the United States Army and later in the Confederate Army. Her mother was Septima Sexta Middleton Rutledge Forney.

The United Daughters of the Confederacy bestowed on her their highest award, the Jefferson Davis Medal, for distinguished service. As a result of a campaign initiated Mrs. Daugette, the Great Seal of Alabama, with her alterations, was re-adopted in 1939. Jacksonville State University honored her with the doctor of humanities degree, and she was inducted, posthumously, into the Alabama Hall of Fame on Oct. 26, 1978.

After years of contributing a steady vision and a wise leadership to her city, county and state, she died in Jacksonville at the age of 98 on Sept. 11, 1974.

"He is very, very tall and slim, not handsome, but has fine eyes and a cleft chin which always shows character, is quiet and rather dignified."

*--Septima Forney
Mother of Annie Forney*

After 13 years, McGee Leaves Legacy

ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

•Recruited a new generation of faculty and academic support personnel.

•Library developed as an academic hub for the campus and community.

•Adopted a revised core curriculum.

•Increased admission standards.

•Achieved or reaffirmed national accreditation for the university's professional preparation programs in art, business, education, music, nursing, social work, technology and theatre.

•Added new curricula: nursing, technology, computer and education.

•Utilized program review and benchmarking to enhance viable programs and to achieve budget savings.

•Computerized the academic affairs division. (Faculty officers, laboratories, administrative offices, telephone, library, LAN, Internet, super-computer access, e-mail, voice mail, advisement, registration.)

•19,000 students graduated.

•New academic facilities in Ayers, Bibb Graves, Hammond, library, Mason, McGee, Merrill, Self, Stephenson.

•New equipment.

•Increased clerical support.

•Established the University Forum and functioning standing committees to strengthen internal communications and governance.

•Improved faculty salaries.

•Increased research, publication and scholarly activities.

STUDENT LIFE

•Provided hard dollar funding for all student services.

•Major renovation of student housing.

•Improved food services and options.

•Outsourced and improved book store and student health.

•Established the wellness program.

•Increased all student activities support.

•Built the Paul Carpenter Village.

•Renovated and developed



Courtesy, Julian Jenkins

McGee Center under construction

On April 19, 1999, ground was broken for the \$5.7 million McGee Science Center, named in honor of Dr. Harold McGee, which will be constructed behind Martin Hall. This rendering from architect Julian Jenkins shows the building as it will appear from Bennet Boulevard, N.E.

Stephenson Hall into a student activities center.

•Renovated the Montgomery Building.

•Initiated Parents Day, Show Choir, Pep Band, Dinner Theater, Visitation Day, Food Court.

•Increased women's athletic

activities.

•Added staff and service in counseling and in career planning and placement.

•Initiated on-line student financial information, registration, advisement, library information and student I.D.

•Initiated a minority affairs

office.

•Increased SFA and established leadership and other scholarship programs.

•New track.

•New baseball facilities.

•Renovated Mathews Coliseum.

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OF PROGRESS

•Installed lighted pathway system.

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INSTITUTIONAL SUPPORT

•New mainframe computer, personal computers, LAN, fiber optic cable, supercomputer access, Internet, software.

•Land acquisitions: Mountain Avenue, coliseum, Paul Carpenter Village, Chimney Peak, Little River Canyon and wetlands access area.

•Major equipment acquisitions.

•Major technology enhancement, Self Hall, TV, radio satellite downlink, computer laboratories, language laboratory, weather station, distance learning through compressed video, print shop, National Public Radio.

•Rewiring electrical systems, fiber optic cable plant and retrofit of electrical distribution systems.

•Renovations: library, Bibb Graves, Crow, Dixon, Fitzpatrick, Patterson, Logan,

UNIVERSITY ADVANCEMENT

•Endowment growth.

•Eminent Scholars.

•Little River Canyon.

•First Capital Campaign.

•Alumni credit card.

•Successful Vanity Tag program

•Alumni membership growth (10 fold)



Portrait unveiled

President and Mrs. Harold J. McGee unveiled Dr. McGee's portrait, which will hang in Houston Cole Library, during a picnic in honor of the retiring president June 17 on the Quad. Employees presented Dr. McGee a computer as a farewell gift. Rep. Gerald Willis presented a resolution from the Legislature and Don Thacker, vice president of administrative and business affairs, read a resolution from the Board of Trustees commending McGee, who retires June 30. At left is President-Elect Bill Meehan.

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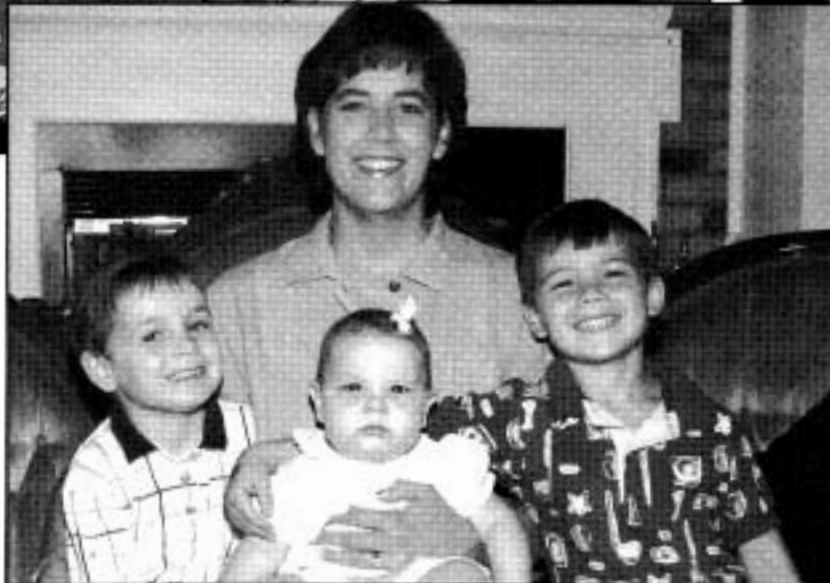
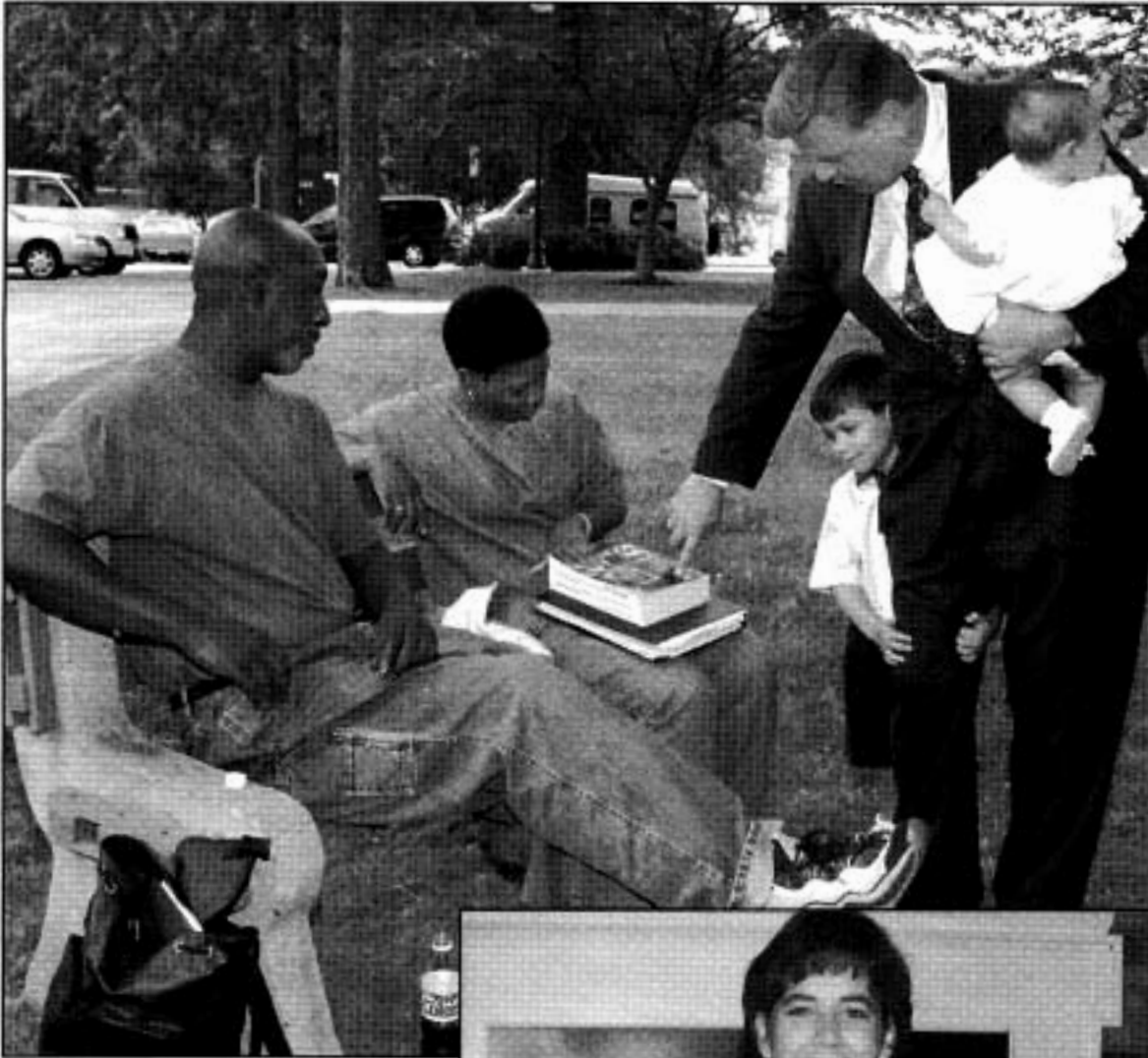
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•Photos by Anita Ford•

Jacksonville State University's new president Bill Meehan wasted no time in acquainting his young children with the JSU campus and its students.

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Mr. Bill Meehan

as the incoming president of J.S.U.

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ATTRIBUTES ARE PROVIDED FOR STUDENTS

JSU teaches students to be able to respond to society's needs

The University's educational mission is to provide students with the knowledge, skills, values and interests necessary for socially productive and personally satisfying lives.

To accomplish this mission requires that the university teach the students how to develop and to evaluate the goals to which their intellectual skills are applied and how to respond effectively to the changing needs of a complex society and world.

These abilities require a range of knowledge that extends beyond the student's chosen professional field.

To achieve these goals, the University provides academic programs and a campus environment designed to provide our graduates with the following attributes:

1. Communication Skills including the ability to comprehend through reading and listening; to speak and write clearly and correctly; and to be effective in the organization and presentation of ideas in writing and discussion.

2. Information Skills including the ability to use effectively a library and information resources such as computerized search and retrieval technologies.

3. Quantitative Skills including the ability to understand the basic concepts of mathematics; to interpret statistical data; to recognize the capabilities and limitations of quantification; and to use computers effectively.

4. Critical Thinking and Problem-Solving Skills including the ability and disposition to think logically on the basis of useful assumptions; to distinguish the subjective from the positive and factual; to weigh evidence and evaluate facts and ideas critically; to think independently; and to analyze and synthesize.

5. Learning that acquaints students with the cultural heritage of the West and an awareness of the contemporary world of philosophy, natural science, art, literature, social change, and social issues.

6. Intellectual Tolerance as demonstrated by openness to new ideas, willingness to question orthodoxy, appreciation of intellectual diversity, and the ability to deal with complexity and ambiguity.

7. Aesthetic Sensibility represented by the ability to understand and to enjoy literature, fine arts, and cultural activities as expressions of personal and social experience.

8. Psychological And Physical Well-Being which requires the ability to understand and to apply the basic principles for cultivating physical and mental health, acceptance of self and others, and the ability to accept responsibility for one's actions.

9. Life-Long Learning

as demonstrated by sustained intellectual curiosity and continued par-

ticipation in learning activities.

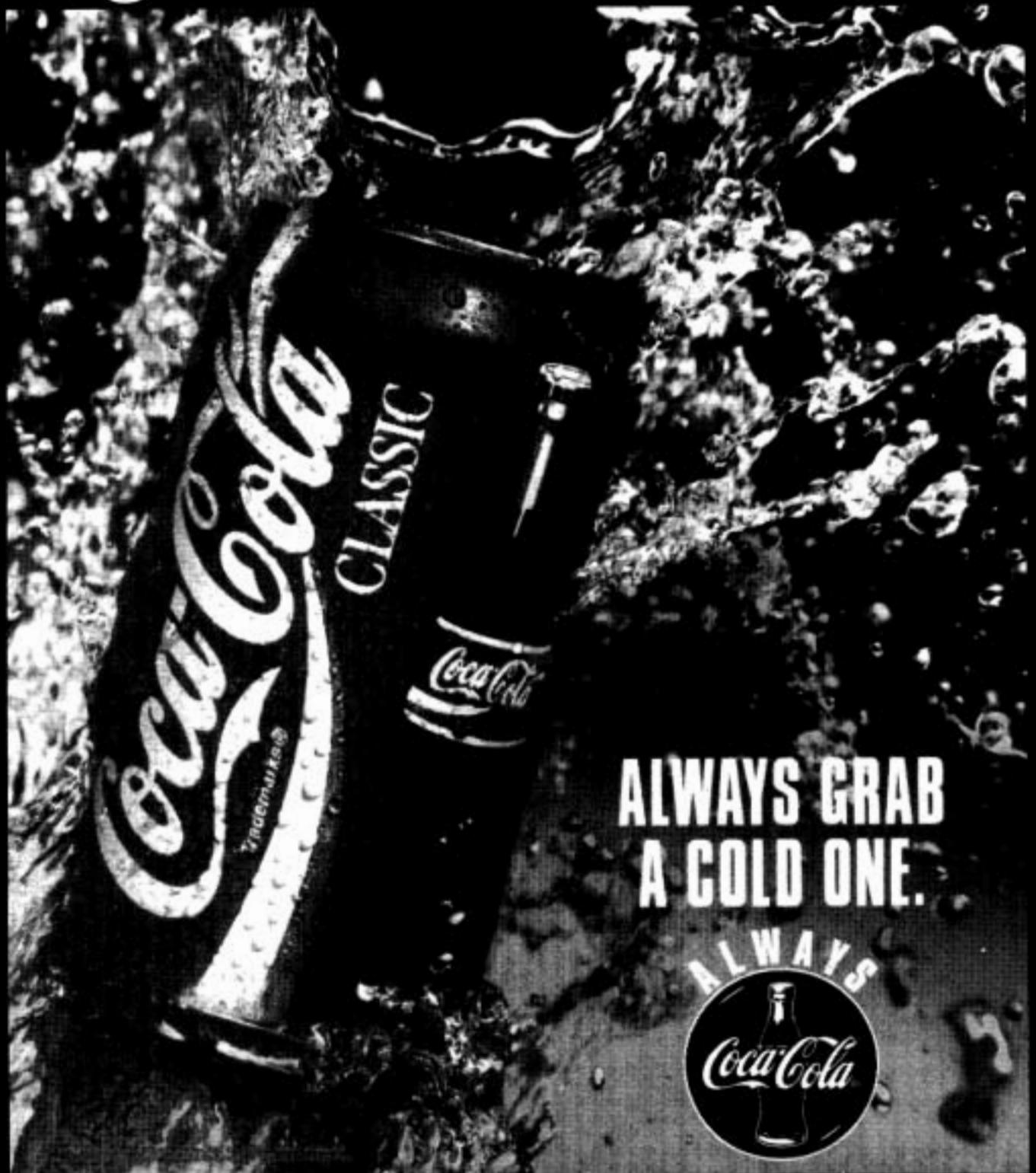
10. Interpersonal and Organizational Skills including the ability to be an effective member of groups, sensitivity to group norms and customs, skills in conflict resolution, and appreciation of cultural diversity.

11. Social Responsibility represented by active participation as an informed and responsible citizen in solving the problems of one's community.

12. Economic Productivity which requires the skills and the in-depth knowledge necessary to prepare for the first job, for entry into a professional field, or for successful pursuit of advanced academic study.



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The City of **JACKSONVILLE**

congratulates Jacksonville State University for selecting Mr. Bill Meehan as President. Bill and his lovely family are long-term residents of Jacksonville, well-established in community affairs, and we look forward to working with him as he assumes leadership of the University. We anticipate many years of progress ahead!



JSU President Bill Meehan and Family
Wife, Beth and Children, Will, Drew and Carol Grace



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