Trustees hike tuition by $150

Full-time cost now $1,620; intended to fund bond issue and faculty raises

By Benjamin Cunningham
The Chanticleer Editor-in-Chief

JSU’s board of trustees voted unanimously to raise tuition by $150 on Monday, effective for the fall semester of 2002.

The vote, taken at the board’s quarterly meeting, brings the cost of full-time attendance for Alabama residents to $1,620. It is the third $150 increase in four years, and marks the seventh consecutive year with a tuition hike. JSU’s tuition has more than doubled since 1992, when the cost of attendance was $775.

“Nobody likes to raise tuition,” JSU President Dr. Bill Meehan said after the meeting. “I certainly don’t like to raise it at all. I know that it affects the students.”

Meehan said the increase was necessary to fund a bond issue for campus renovations and to ensure there’s money for a pay raise for faculty.

The board also voted to allow Meehan to pursue issuance of the bond, in the amount of $15 million. According to Don Thacker, JSU’s vice president for administrative and business affairs, the bond will finance the renovation of Ayers Hall. He said the renovation is scheduled to begin next month and should be completed by spring 2002. It will also fund renovations to several University athletic facilities.

The renovations are necessary in order to continue to attract new students, “because no one wants to come to a deteriorating campus,” Meehan said.

Rises for faculty are also high on the list of reasons for a tuition increase, the president said. “We want to give our faculty raises. K-12’s (salaries) were increased, junior colleges’ see Tuition, page 2.

JSU holds 20th annual Holocaust commemoration ceremony

By Stephanie Pendergrass
The Chanticleer News Editor

JSU held its Annual Days of Remembrance in commemoration of the Holocaust of World War II last Thursday night. At the event Holocaust survivor Max Herzel told of his experiences during the war, and the fact that he holds no grudges against the German people.

The commemoration also featured a welcome by SGA president Robert Hayes, an invocation by Rev. Margaret Lemmons, a candle lighting by Lauren Lemmons and commentary by Dr. Russell Lemmons, of JSU’s history department.

Middle school winners of the “Imagining the Holocaust” writing contest read their winning entries, and the high school winners of the contest were announced. Dr. Samuel Brown and Kaylee Willingham sang at the event, with accompaniment by Dr. Legare McIntosh.

The evening concluded with members of Temple Beth-El, of Anniston, reading the Kaddish. According to the Holocaust commemoration’s program, “The Kaddish is traditionally recited by mourners at public services after the death of close relatives. We offer it tonight in remembrance of the millions who were systematically exterminated during World War II.”

Along with the Holocaust commemoration, Herzel made another appearance on campus. Last Friday, he and his wife were guests in Dr. Steven Whitton’s Honors 102 English class.

Again Herzel explained his survival during World War II and told of his reuniting with the few family members that lived through the experiences of the Holocaust.

In one story Herzel said he rode on the bicycle of a militant. While Herzel was trying to escape potential trouble, the militant offered him a ride on his bicycle. If he had have been discovered, he could have been thrown into a camp, or even killed.

Herzel said he didn’t remember anything about the man he was riding with, except his boots. Herzel said, “My heart was racing, and I couldn’t wait to get off that bicycle.”

Herzel’s family was sent to an internment camp, which he explained was a pipeline to the concentration camps. While he and his brother and father escaped the camp by paying off guards, Herzel’s mother was held hostage at the camp and was released a couple of weeks later.

Other experiences Herzel spoke of included his mother’s attempted suicide. He said that when this happened, she was sent to a psychiatric hospital and later served that hospital as a nurse’s aid and seamstress.

She stayed there for the duration of the war; thus she wasn’t subjected to the concentration camps. According to Herzel, “God in his own way had a special way of handling it.”

According to Herzel, his father died at Buchenwald, a concentration camp located in Weimar, Germany. His death, which was 93 days before the liberation of the camp, was brought on by dysentery, famine, malnutrition and “you name it,” Herzel said.

Herzel came to the United States from Belgium when he was 18 years old. He was drafted by both the French and U.S. armies and served in the United States Air Force. He now resides in Birmingham with his wife and speaks at many events concerning the Holocaust.

When asked if he still felt anger towards the Germans, Herzel said, “Not really. I don’t have any anger against individuals or countries. What I don’t like ... I don’t like Nazis. I firmly believe in freedom, I believe in liberty, I believe in the principles that America stands for; that’s why I served with honor and I’m proud.”

Fitzpatrick Hall will become freshman-only dorm this fall

By Katie Harris
The Chanticleer Staff Writer

Beginning in the fall of 2002, Fitzpatrick Hall will be a coed dorm for incoming freshmen.

According to Synette Gandy, assistant director of housing, Fitzpatrick is for “traditional incoming freshmen,” which excludes students that waited a year between graduating high school and starting college.

Gandy also said that Fitzpatrick will house 224 freshmen students, half male and half female, with boys on the first and second floor while girls will reside on the third and fourth floors. There are no private rooms, and students can move in August.

The purpose of having a freshman dorm is “so we can concentrate on their needs a lot more, because when they first get here they really aren’t experienced living away from home like this,” said Gandy.

There are several goals for this dorm. “It is the same group of people living with each other, so it goes back to the old ways of everybody came in, well the majority of the people that came in, that freshman class, graduates together, and they literally will know each other,” said Gandy. “The alumni group will be stronger.”

Gandy has high hopes for the academic success of the students in the dorm. “Hopefully this group will find their little niche. They’ll stay together, they’ll grow together and become stronger students.”

Gandy believes that the students will help each other focus on academics. “Studies have shown that when people are with their own and working - have a focus, a goal, an academic goal - they tend to keep each other focused,” said Gandy.

“When you have people pushing you, you’re more apt to get to school, you’re more apt to focus on graduating.”

Paige Faulkner, who has been selected as the Fitzpatrick dorm director, said, “We’re expecting it to be an educational, learning environment that will help the freshmen come in and adapt to living on their own and being on a college campus and give them the skills that are