On July 1, 1999, Dr. William A. Meehan became the 11th president of Jacksonville State University, replacing the retiring Dr. Harold McGee, who presided over JSU for 13 years.

Even with the closing of Fort McClellan, JSU could have easily lost 500 students, but instead, the fall 1999 head count is 8,061, which is an increase of 292 over the previous year.

The number of high school students taking JSU courses as part of the Dual Enrollment program has doubled since last year.

The Department of Mathematical, Computing and Information Sciences was approved by ACHE to administer a Master of Science in systems and software development.

The inaugural issue of the Chanticleer online debuted on September 9. It was designed to give students, faculty and alumni access to the paper via the JSU web page.

In the fall of 1999, the biggest increase in enrollment was attributed to first-time freshmen, which was up 26 percent.

JSU president Dr. Bill Meehan and Dr. William T. Fielding, dean of the College of Commerce and Business Administration, announce that according to the university’s first complete economic impact survey since 1985, JSU makes an astounding $217.6 million economic impact on Calhoun and Etowah counties.

“JSU: Right for You” marketing campaign is used to promote the university. The series of ads used some notable Alumni to promote that JSU was right for them and is “Right For You”.

The number of students enrolled in distance learning at JSU continues to rise, with a 45.5 percent increase in the number of enrollments during the past year. In fall 1998, 608 students took classes through either College by Cassette, Compressed Video or the Internet.

The source of information listed is from various departmental reports.