

Season over for Tiger Woods

Tiger Woods walked tenderly out of Torrey Pines with a U.S. Open trophy he was destined to win on a left leg worse than anyone imagined. A group of children called out to him and Woods looked over and waved. / B1




Soldier refuses Iraq deployment

An Army sergeant from Alabama who is refusing to deploy to Iraq says the war is illegal and that he stands ready to defend himself against a court-martial if it comes to that. / A4



Boeing wins air tanker protest

Boeing scored a major victory Wednesday in its battle to wrestle back a \$35 billion Air Force contract from Northrop Grumman and its European partner. / A5



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BEVILL STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Morrison: \$1 million cut from college in state budget

Proration 'a possibility'

By ED HOWELL
Eagle Senior Writer

Bevill State Community College Interim President Neal Morrison said Wednesday that the Alabama Legislature cut \$1 million from the school in the education budget, and officials are taking their own budget-cutting actions with the threat of proration still hanging in the

air.

Morrison said the school had 4 percent fewer employees compared to last year as a precaution, mostly in positions that are not being refilled. However, he emphasized promised programs and capital improvement projects will go forward, as he considers them necessary for the area and the school.

A meeting is set for Friday for college officials to decide on specific ways to cut the budget without cutting programs or staff, he said.

Morrison said having multiple campuses and federal grants to support programs will also help the college. Even then, adult education was cut 57 percent.

"There's one, possibly two people we may not possibly bring back, because that's a small program anyway," he said.

As another example, a psychology teacher that was at the Fayette campus has left and one at the Hamilton campus will likely be shared with Fayette, Morrison said.

Staff has been asked to share faculty

when possible between campuses and to share rides going between campuses as a means to cut down on the second major crunch hitting the college — rising fuel prices.

Morrison said he has also seen more students sharing rides between campuses. Online courses are also being quickly filled as students are trying to conserve their gasoline money.

For the first time this fall, in addition

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Neal Morrison

WALKER COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

AFA says

Many people.



WALKER BAPTIST MEDICAL CENTER

Candlelight

sesquicentennial event, Rick Harris of Arley, said people planning to attend the event can drop their passengers off

area. "Once you've dropped off your passengers you can return to one of the designat-

Christ Fellowship Church to park your vehicle and ride a shuttle back to Looney's,"

and join us for a weekend filled with plenty of fun, food and entertainment."

Bevill State

From A1

to individual online classes, Bevill State will be giving its students the opportunity to pursue a Liberal Arts degree strictly online regardless of their location.

Students and faculty both should benefit from distance learning and video conferencing equipment, which got a upgrade recently from a \$169,000 Appalachian Regional Commission grant. Morrison said college staff and administrators will likely use video conferencing more to hold college-wide staff meetings to cut down on traveling.

Morrison said he is still concerned that the weak dollar, rising gas prices and other national economic problems could force proration to reappear next year. Some critics said the educa-

tion budget passed recently by the Legislature and pushed by Gov. Bob Riley was too rosy in its economic projections.

The Department of Postsecondary Education is advising colleges to keep a reserve of three months of operational cost. Morrison said past Bevill State administrators have been good at conserving funds and built up a reserve of more than four months.

Mark Ellard, vice president of finances at Bevill State, and other financial officers from other community colleges were also successful in lobbying the state to allow it to keep contributions to a state fund that had helped lower bond payments. The state will allow the colleges to keep those funds for

any academic needs this year, which will net the college \$100,000.

Morrison said Ellard has been so successful in helping the college recently in its finances that he recently received a state postsecondary education award as the top financial officer in the system.

At the same time, Morrison said many other schools in the state did not have as much reserve as Bevill State had, and he worried about the effect proration might have on their future.

Morrison said even with the reserve, he worried about the effects proration might have next year and did not rule out the possibility that proration could force outright layoffs that have been avoided this year.

He said the college's courses and programs will continue even with budget cuts, including new technical programs to help those going into the automotive industry. He still hopes to arrange for four-year schools to teach at Bevill State, which would be beneficial to local students.

New construction will not be affected at the campuses. He considers that essential and funding is already earmarked for that. He said construction of the math and science building at the Jasper campus is close to 90 percent completed. Contractors have told him they are on track to turn over the keys in September, which would allow the college to have it furnished and ready to use by the first of the year.

Cafe

From A1

oxinium. It's a harder material than the titanium or the cobalt chrome, which a lot of other joints are made out of. The

"A lot of people are interested in orthopedic proce-

Baptist was recently awarded by HealthGrades as the top hospital in Alabama for orthopedics.

"We're focusing on orthopedics right now," she said. "A lot of