JSUEA concerned over TV station

By JAN DICKINSON

Wednesday, April 10, the Jacksonville State University Education Association (JSUEA) met to discuss recent reports concerning WJSU-TV, the Communications Foundation of JSU, and the Board of Trustees. The discussion centered around the possibility of future funding of WJSU-TV by the Board.

WJSU-TV, then WHMA, was purchased in 1983 by the Communications Foundation for a total of $2.9 million, $300,000 of which was loaned to the group by the Board. The four officers of the foundation are: JSU President Theron Montgomery, Jack Hopper, assistant to the president, Charlie Rowe, budget officer, and James Reaves, vice president of academic affairs.

Contrary to what many people on and off campus think, Jacksonville State University does not own WJSU-TV, even though the call letters of the station carry the school’s initials.

In an old news release which according to sources within the JSUEA, was circulated among the faculty before the purchase of the station, three reasons were listed for the purchase:
1. To enhance the University’s new communications major.
2. As a service to the community by maintaining local ownership.
3. As a financial investment. Within that release, Montgomery was quoted as saying, “Jacksonville State University is not acquiring the station, and it will not use its funds to acquire the station.”

He also added: “…we feel...” (See TV, Page 2)

Reaction to Holocaust varies across nation, campus

By VICKY WALLACE

Anyone who has been watching the news in the past week or so, knows about the controversy over President Reagan’s planning to go to a German concentration camp and then visit a German cemetery. What the President said, in regards to the cemetery visit is what has many people steaming. He said that the German soldiers were “victims just as surely as those (Jews) in the concentration camps.” The Jewish community is especially upset at the thought of Reagan wanting to go to the cemetery. He said that the President equated the German soldiers with the people who suffered in the concentration camps.

Professor Elie Wiesel, president of the United States Holocaust Memorial Council, said that he feels distressed that Reagan would want to go to the cemetery. He said that he couldn’t understand the President equating the German soldiers with those who suffered in the concentration camps. Claren Bacon, the National Commander of the American Legion, feels “the President was ill-advised to go visit a German cemetery to pay tribute and honor to German soldiers—a more appropriate place could have been found.”

What do Americans think? There seems to be a difference of opinion concerning the President’s plans. The Eisenhower community is especially upset at the thought of Reagan wanting to go to the cemetery. He said that the President equated the German soldiers with the people who suffered in the concentration camps.

President: “I’m sure a lot of Germans (people) were victims. The soldiers were only following orders whether they agreed with the genocide or not. Mankind should prevent such a thing’s happening again. The genocide was ugly...it comes down to Hitler. Remembrance shows what can happen during a war.”

Dr. T. Allen Smith, Dean of the College of Humanities and Social Sciences, said that he can understand “him (Reagan) trying to make a positive gesture toward Germany, but this would be a mistake if he was trying to minimize atrocities that occurred during that time. We should never forget what happened...”

Mrs. Gwen Mulder of the sociology department thinks it most important for even students to remember the Holocaust to prevent it from happening again. Mrs. Mulder can recall quite well the time that the program of mass genocide was going on. Her husband was in World War II and this made her hate war even more so:

“In the years leading up to it, I didn’t know how awful it was. I felt it was a ‘just’ war and Hitler had to be stopped...The Jews have always been persecuted—even before Christ...Not only them, but any group that is different in looks, beliefs, religion, color, etc., have been persecuted. Human beings can be good, but we have the capacity to do evil...” Mrs. Mulder went on to say that World War II and listening to the radio (hearing of Hitler) were the two events that persuaded her to go into sociology and anthropology. She felt that these two areas would give her a better understanding of human beings in society and a fuller understanding of herself.

Rev. Robert Ford said that by (See OPINION, Page 2)
RA's trained by Housing Dept.

By LARRY CUNNINGHAM

On Saturday April 18, The JSU Housing Department conducted a training program for those Assistants who will be returning and prospective applicants for the Semester of... The program was coordinated and conducted by Larry Cunningham, its content included Human Relations, Decision-Making and Problem Solving. Each topic content was supplemented by a series of role-play exercises by other directors, H.A.'s and students.

Dean Miriam Higginbotham opened the program by stressing the importance of such a program to the total housing efforts. The purpose of the program was to stress how the housing staff can work together more effectively toward the accomplishment of established goals, as well as the accomplishment of individual.

Mr. Cunningham began each topic by allowing the audience to give their definition of the topic thus gaining open participation. The role-play exercises were then used to illustrate the main points of each topic.

Some of those attending were asked to make an evaluation of the workshop. Their responses are as follows:

Victoria Hardy: "I am an H.A. at Weatherly Hall. I must say that I really learned a good deal from attending this seminar. I now have a new outlook on my job, and my goal is to make it more satisfying to myself and for my residents.

Robyn Alvis: "I think the seminar was very informative. I got a lot of helpful hints on how to handle situations. It also helped just to hear other H.A.'s talk about how they have had similar problems and how they handled them."

Due to the success of this program, the Housing Staff will continue training sessions as an on going part of its total efforts. These sessions will include all phases of activities important to the growth and development of student life at Jacksonville State University.

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