Students respond to President's speech

Michael Haedicke
Erin R. McClintic
News Co-editor

Many events are planned in the wake of the campus-wide meeting this past Monday. A candlelight support vigil is scheduled for 9 p.m. this Sunday on the steps of Stetson Chapel, according to Connie Korzdorfer, K’99. All students are invited to attend.

The culture of silence will be addressed in this Thursday’s First-Year Forum entitled “The K Balanced Act” at 6:30 p.m. in the Presidents Lounge.

Student Commission President Ben Imdieke, K’99, has offered the year’s first Student Commission meeting on Thursday at Common Time in the Gilmore Dining Room as a “standing board” on student concerns.

Imdieke also said that discussions were begun (Tuesday) in hopes that Safe Walk will be restarted. The Safe Walk program organized student escorts for single students walking home after dark. The program closed in 1996 due to lack of funding and demand.

Students can obtain escorts from Kalamazoo College Security by calling 337-7321. Off-campus security concerns are scheduled to be discussed at the first Commuter Meeting on Wednesday between 6 and 7 p.m. in the Student Commission Room.

Discussions on student activities to make the campus safer began with the student Break-Out Sessions which followed the campus-wide meeting on Monday with President James Jones.

Jones called the meeting to address three recent incidents on campus. During the weekend an unidentified individual described as an African American male entered the Umoja House. Two women were present in the house at the time.

In an incident that may be unrelated, a hate message was attached to the door of an African American student in Trowbridge Hall near 2 p.m. on Sunday afternoon. The message read, “We have no nigger policy at a fucking place.” The note was signed, “OPERATION ELIMINATE.” The author of the note is not known.

On Monday morning a fire broke out in the same room in Trowbridge Hall. The fire was quickly extinguished but caused $2,000 to $3,000 worth of damage to property. No one was injured in the fire.

The fire is currently under investigation by the Fire/Police Department. Jones stated on Monday that no evidence of arson or of a relationship between the fire and the hate message had yet been discovered.

Jones offered a $1,000 reward for information that leads to the apprehension of the criminal. He also stated he would release any new information to the campus community regarding the investigations when it becomes available.

StuCom releases election results

Nancy El-Shamaa
In-depth

Alcohol is a huge problem on most college campuses – truth or fiction? In a survey taken at Kalamazoo College in the spring of 1998, students from ages 18 to 23 were questioned about their alcohol-consuming habits.

The students were asked how many times over the previous two weeks they had consumed five or more drinks at one sitting. The results are as follows: 55 percent said they had not done this at all; 21 percent replied that they had done this once; 11 percent had consumed this amount twice in two weeks; 10 percent had done this 3-5 times; the other 3 percent downed five drinks in one sitting more than five times in two weeks.

The students were also asked about how many drinks they consumed in an average week. About 31 percent said none, 11 percent consumed one drink per week, nine percent drank about two alcoholic beverages in a week, eight percent consumed three, four percent drank four drinks per week, seven percent had five, five percent consumed six, and the other 24 percent drank seven or more alcoholic drinks per week.

On average, men drank about twice as much as women. In addition, the survey was conducted in proportion with the student population and racial make-up of each class. (If the first-years made up 20 percent of the student population last year, then 30 percent of those surveyed were first-years.)

Although the results of this survey showed that many students drank, 37 percent of the surveyed students were 21 years old or older. For those younger than 21, consequences of drinking alcohol could include heavy fines, imprisonment, or a hangover depending on the circumstances.

Because of the high incidents of alcohol poisoning at last year’s Disorientation Party at the end of First-Year Orientation Week, this year’s Disorientation Party was cancelled.

New Student Commission Elected

Michael Haedicke
News Co-editor

Students voted to install a new Student Commission and remove uncontested races for Student Commission positions in the future.

Ninety-five percent of voting students supported the list of candidates for this year’s Student Commission.

Eighty percent of students voted for a proposal to allow uncontested candidates for Student Commission positions to pass without an election. Seventy-nine percent of students voted for a proposal to extend the terms of two Student Commission positions to one year.

Students cast a single vote for a list of candidates. In the past, students have voted on each position separately.

Fifteen percent of the Student Body voted during the election.