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Students respond to President's speech

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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 Sunnie 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' Balancing 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 "sounding 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 a no nigger policy at 'K' meant to ensure the failure all non-whites . . . Once you people realize that we cannot live together the world will be a better



Students attend President Jones' campus wide meeting on the Quad Monday in response to the recent Umoja House break-in, racial letter, and Trowbridge fire.

Photo by Amanda Stitt

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 Marshall and the Kalamazoo 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.

Staff writer Andrew Farkas contributed to this report.