What you missed...

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such as clerk and vice-president of Cynthia Chapman K’87 and Lisa finance. Although nearly finalsts in the TIME Achievement elections, retirements, etc. The well as the award-winning feature length film, PORTRAITS AT RANDOM religion major who at the time was quarter Foreign Study, was recognized for writing a play for a political science and Spanish mllior, tional studies.

At the end of March, TIME magazine ended its search for its nation’s top “most outstanding college students.” Two K students, Cynthia Changho K’87 and Lisa Kibill K’87, were named as merit finalists in the TIME Achievement Award Competition. Chapman, a religion major who at the time was in Hong Kong doing a three quarter Foreign Study, was recognized for writing a play for Christian choirs, and trusting the East Coast performing her play with a group of K students. Elbert, a political science and Spanish major, was recognized for her achievement in the study of human rights issues and internationalsecond week marked the begin­ ning of K’s African Studies Conference and cadence which was sponsored by the Fordham University African Association. The theme for this weekend conference was “African Nationalism and Liberal Arts.” In addition to the various lectures, there were nearly a dozen short films shown as well as the award-winning feature length film, PORTRAITS AT RANDOM, and a slide show of the African continent. Several of the films were sponsored by the film Society. Dr. Ferguson and Boilman of the Foreign Study Office were the chief organizers of the conference and were aided by Dr. Sandra Greene, who heads the African Studies office. Students Council held a elec­ tion Monday of second week. Students were seen in groups such as clock and vice-president of Kalamazoo College. Although nearly 900 students were on campus during the time of the elections, only 315 voted.

Dewing vandalism come forward

by Jeri Overton K‘87

Early Sunday morning on June 1 near the end of spring quarter, students found graffiti chisel on doors and other writing surfaces throughout Dewing Hall. The graffiti were written violently against gays, liberals, WIGS, and even specific students. As a result of this incident, the campus community rallied together to put a stop to this such intolerance. The Index put out a special letter on the situation as a plea for tolerance, an issue which included over sixty student entries. President Breneman also made a special appeal for the entire campus on Wednesday the 4th which was held in the chapel. Dr. Breneman, Marilyn Kudla K’88, and Milla Van Vleet Hoob all spoke out against intolerance during this meeting. At the end of exam week, nearing graduation, two seniors admint that they were responsible for the graffiti. As disciplin­ ary action, they were both required to make a public apology to their class at the commencement rehearsal, assigned writing and reading projects on the broad topic of tolerance, and their grades will be withheld until these projects are turned in. This form of punishment was chosen for several reasons: the two wrote the graffiti anonymously, and hence were required to take public responsibility for their actions; their public apology took the heat off other people who have been beaten, scolded, and threatened because the actions in Dewing indicate a need for further educa­ tion. It is important to note that though these two students were held responsible for the Dewing incident, they were not responsible for much other defacing and intolerance that has taken place on this campus. There are others who remain silent who may have secretly applauded their actions, or who indulge in either verbal abuse or in the defacing of posters—others who need to recognize their own behavior and put a stop to it. According to Marilyn La Pierre, this incident represents a begin­ ning. In the fall, programs are being planned on tolerance pro­ grams that will teach students about the consequences of their backgrounds that are different from their own. The programs will emphasize an ongoing need for all of us, a need which the Dewing incident has captured in a nut shell.

Class of ’86 commences

by Margaret Wood K’87

Mrs. Judy Brennan woke at 5:30 am on the day of Com­ mencement Day. Her first thought was to pray peacefully, but rather to discover him in the study, working frantically at his typewriter. Writing impromptu speeches seems to be all in a day’s work, a college president comfortably assumes responsibility, rather than to hem and haw about what better way to leave than to leave with a smile on his face.

The Class of ’86 commences the night before the ceremony, when Henry Jones Farlie, scheduled commencement speaker fell to arrive at “K”. Imaginative minds on campus, spurred by the mystery of his whereabouts, began rumors of kidnapping, accidental death, or even terrorist attacks. Farlie, a distinguished literary writer and contributing editor to “The New Republic," failed to make contact with anyone on campus following his mysterious disap­ pearance. But in the true spirit of Kalamazoo College, Dr. Brennan saved the day by quickly selecting his speech topic shortly before commencement and taking the place of the missing Farlie.

The president admitted that he really did enjoy giving speeches, and joyously suggested that there never really was a Henry Jones Farlie, but rather that it was all a plot to tole a presidential speech. The impromptu talk was received with loud applause, even after the rain began to fall. Yes, the Kalamazoo College Commencement nightmarers originated when it started to rain halfway through President Breneman’s speech. Before a little lip-reading the tradi­ tions of Kalamazoo College? Certainly not. Dr. Brennan simply whipped out his black and orange “K” umbrella and went on with the show. Following rain was Ruth was Ruth (we put a special extra issue out for the students), and we put our own umbrella in the rain. A steady ran for cover under the roof of Hicks Center. Some graduating seniors speculated that the Commencement Nightmarers are a last ditch effort to keep the Class of ’86 from leaving on time. The idea was to delay the day before the ceremony. But one senior was heard to say “It had to happen. We couldn’t just let this College without making one final mark in the history of the class of 1986. We must, what better way to leave than with a bang!”