

weekly index

the kalamazoo college student newspaper
friday, june 27, 1986—summer quarter/week 1

What you missed . . .

by Kristine Altwies K'88

Anyone returning to K—or arriving for the first time will probably be met with a myriad of seemingly cryptic small talk or gossip pertaining to last quarter's numerous social happenings, sports events, elections, retirements, etc. The *Index* had an especially busy quarter, yet managed to cover most everything that went on at K in ten glorious four-page issues. To give all returning/newly-arrived students a head start on catching up, the *Index* has decided to publish a brief summary of Spring quarter '86 at K.

At the end of March, TIME magazine ended its search for our nation's 100 "most outstanding college students." Two K students, Cynthia Chapman K'87 and Lisa Ehlert 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 clowns, and touring the East Coast performing her play with a group of K students. Ehlert, a political science and Spanish major, was recognized for her achievement in the study of human rights issues and international studies.

Second week marked the beginning of K's African Studies Conference which was sponsored by the Great Lakes College Association. The theme for this weekend conference was "Africa and the Liberal Arts." In addition to the various lecturers, there were nearly a dozen short films shown as well as the award-winning feature length film, "Black and White in Color" which was sponsored by the Film Society. Drs. Fugate and Buschman 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.

Student Commission held elections Monday of second week. Students were elected to positions such as clerk and vice-president of finance. Although nearly 900 students were on campus during the time of the elections, only 315 chose to vote.

PORTRAITS AT RANDOM



Third week brought surprises, disappointments and sadness as well as K's 154th birthday. Billie King, well-known at K as the head of counseling, announced her plans to retire during summer quarter. Since coming to K fifteen years ago King has assumed a number of responsibilities ranging from Head Resident at Trowbridge and Harmon, to Housing Director and finally counseling. Billie King leaves us to spend more time with her two grandchildren.

Many students were disappointed to learn of the tuition hike. The new increase will have students paying \$3,532.00 per quarter.

"Lusi" Yzenbaard, employed by K since 1974 ended her struggle against cancer April 8, 1986. She will best be remembered as the friendly Mandelle Mail Hut worker who was genuinely interested in the lives of students and who always took the time to say a few kind words to whomever happened to be walking by the mail hut.

Arthur Kudla K'88 was named among 102 undergraduates nationwide as a recipient of the 1986 Truman Scholarship. This award, sponsored by the Harry S. Truman Foundation, was given based on the recipient's "potential for leadership, academic ability, and careers in government." The award carries a maximum stipend of \$7,000.00 per year for four years of undergraduate or graduate work.

George Acker and Dr. Phillip Thomas were awarded K College's highest faculty honors, the Florence J. Lucasse Lectureship and the Florence J. Lucasse Fellowship for 1985-86. A reception held in the Olmsted Room on April 28th honored both Acker, a professor of physical education and Thomas, a professor of economics and business administration.

Our ever-striving professors were at it again 5th week, entertaining the entire campus community with their daring performances in a Nelda Balch Readers Theater production, "White Cliffs, Blue Margarine and Gold Stars." The cast, which included Dr. Margo Bosker, Judy Breneman, Dean Dewey, Dr. Donald Flesche,

Dr. Gail Griffin, Brant Pope, and Dr. Mark Thompson attempted through song and story to present a "theatrical collage" of WWII. Of the production, Balch explained that although it was not intended to glorify war, the play recognizes that there was a camaraderie and stamina prevalent during WWII which could teach us all a lesson today.

Teresa Burns K'87 and Scott Nowling K'87 were the winners in the Student Commission presidential elections held 6th week. Burns will serve as president this summer and fall and Nowling will replace her in office for winter and spring of 1986-87. Burns is a political science major from South Bend, Indiana. Nowling is an economics/political science major from Portage, Michigan.

Harvard paleontologist Stephen Jay Gould delivered the 1986 Tourtellotte lecture on "The Unpredictability of Life's History" in a packed Dalton Theater Thursday of 7th week. Gould amused the enthusiastic audience with his wit and impressed them with his ideas on evolution. In his speech Gould stressed that mankind is "just one of earth's multitude of species," and that our existence is almost completely dependent upon randomness. "We're damned lucky to be here," said the 1981 Scientist of the Year Gould. At the following day's convocation in Stetson Chapel Gould received an honorary degree from the college.

The NCAA Division III National Tournament for Women's Tennis was held during 7th week at K's Stowe Stadium. The Hornets placed third in the competition, making K the third ranked team in the nation in woman's Division III.

8th week saw the coming of Pennsylvania's Bucknell University Concert Chorale. In a joint effort with our own Kalamazoo College Singers, the 560 member Bucknell choir stood shoulder to shoulder with K students while singing the traditional Negro spiritual "Elijah, Rock." The Bucknell choir also sang a variety of traditional and contemporary works, including Mendelssohn, Schubert, and music from 'Sweeney Todd,' and 'Sunday in the Park with George.' The Kalamazoo College Singers,

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Dewing vandals come forward

by Joni Overton K'87

Early Sunday morning on June 1 near the end of spring quarter, students found graffiti chalked on doors and other writing surfaces throughout Dewing Hall. The graffiti spoke out violently against gays, liberals, WIG, and even specific students. As a result of this incident, the campus community rallied together to put a stop to such intolerance. The *Index* put out a special letter issue on the situation as a plea for tolerance, an issue which included over sixty student entries. President Breneman called a special meeting for the entire campus on Wednesday the 4th which was held in the chapel. Dr. Breneman, Marilyn La Plante, Dr. Strobel, Sara Evans, and Mila Visser 't Hooft all spoke out against intolerance during this meeting.

At the end of exam week, nearing graduation, two seniors admitted that they were responsible for the graffiti. As disciplinary action, they were both required to make a public apology to their class at the commencement rehearsal, assigned reading and writing projects on the broad topic of tolerance, and their diplomas are to 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 may have been assumed responsible; and because the actions in Dewing indicate a need for further education of the two students.

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; others 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 behavioral patterns of intolerance.

According to Marilyn La Plante, this incident represents a beginning. In the fall, programs are being planned on tolerance: programs that will teach students how to deal with values and backgrounds that are different from their own. The programs will emphasize an ongoing need for awareness, a need which the Dewing incident has captured in a nut shell.

briefly...

Class of '86 commences

by Margaret Wood K'87

Mrs. Judy Breneman awoke at 5:30 am on the day of Commencement '86 not to find her husband sleeping 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 for a college president in 1986, as Dr. Breneman was later heard to remark with a smile on his face.

The Class of '86 certainly left with a bang. The mishaps of Commencement began the night before the ceremony, when Henry Jones Fairlie, scheduled commencement speaker, failed to arrive at "K." Imaginative minds on campus, spurred by the mystery of his whereabouts, began rumours of kidnapping, accidental death, or even terrorist attacks. Fairlie, a distinguished political writer and contributing editor to "The New Republic," failed to make contact with anyone on campus following his mysterious disappearance. But in the true spirit of Kalamazoo College, Dr. Breneman saved the day by quickly selecting his speech topics shortly before commencement and taking the place of the missing Fairlie.

The President admitted that he really did enjoy giving speeches, and jokingly suggested that there never really was a Henry Jones Fairlie, but rather that it was all a plot to allow a presidential speech.

The impromptu talk was received with loud applause, even after the rain began to fall. Yes, the Kalamazoo College Commencement nightmare occurred when it started to rain halfway through President Breneman's speech. But could a little rain stop the traditions of Kalamazoo College? Certainly not. Dr. Breneman simply whipped out his black and orange "K" umbrella and went on with the show. Following suit were Ruth Collins, versatile registrar, who did all that she could to protect the diplomas with her own "K" umbrella, as well as the rest of the ceremony's participants on the platform, making Commencement an aesthetically pleasing black and orange spectacle. As the rain progressed from sprinkles to showers, some of the dedicated relatives and friends of the graduating class weathered it out, others pulled out their own umbrellas, and many ran for cover under the roof of Hicks Center.

Some graduating seniors speculated that the Commencement mishaps should be contributed to Friday the 13th, which occurred the day before the ceremony. But one senior was heard to say "It had to happen. We couldn't just leave Kalamazoo College without making one final mark in the history of the class of 1986. . . I mean, what better way to leave than to leave with a bang?"