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## Commencement '89

Editorial Staff

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# COMMENCEMENT '89



*In one of his last formal acts as president of Howard University, on May 13th, James E. Cheek officiated at the university's 121st commencement exercises. Under bright sunlight, blue skies and a cool breeze, approximately 2,000 students received degrees, diplomas, certificates and military commissions during those exercises.*

*The commencement address [see Commentary] was delivered by magazine publisher Earl G. Graves, who also received an honorary degree of Doctor of Laws during the ceremony.*

*In addition, four other individuals received honorary degrees: Allen H. Neuharth, Doctor of Humane Letters; Ernesta G. Procope, Doctor of Laws; Mary Clark Rockefeller and Geraldine Pittman Woods, Doctor of Humanities.*

*Neuharth, now retired, was formerly chairman of the publishing conglomerate, the Gannett Company, and founder of its general interest national daily newspaper, USA Today.*

*Procope is the president and chief executive officer of E.G. Bowman, Inc., a New York-based insurance brokerage firm.*

*Rockefeller, a supporter of the university, served on its Board of Trustees for many years and has served on the boards of numerous other educational institutions, particularly in the field of nursing.*

*Woods is chairman emeritus of the Howard University Board of Trustees and a member of the Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of Sciences. In the early '70s, she spearheaded the development of two influential National Institutes of Health programs — the Minority Access to Research Careers Program (MARC) and the Minority Biomedical Research Support Program (MBRS).*

*The welcome message at the ceremony was delivered by Leon Henderson Jr., a graduating senior in the School of Architecture and Planning. Excerpts follow:*