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# WITHDRAWAL SHEET

## Ronald Reagan Library

**Collection Name** BLACKWELL, MORTON: FILES

**Withdrawer**

KDB 6/7/2010

**File Folder** AMERICAN STUDENT ASSOCIATION

**FOIA**

F09-0043/01

**Box Number** 9075

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| DOC NO | Doc Type    | Document Description                                         | No of Pages | Doc Date | Restrictions |
|--------|-------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|----------|--------------|
| 1      | MEMO        | MICHAEL CHAPMAN TO MEMBERS OF ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS | 2           | 4/8/1983 | B6           |
| 2      | CHRONOLO GY | ATTACHMENT TO DOC #1                                         | 2           | ND       | B6           |

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

- B-1 National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
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*DONE call + invite to lunch when next he is in D.C. MB*

# American Student Association

1609 Connecticut Avenue Northwest Washington, D.C. 20009 (202) 223-6600

September 20, 1982

*W.H. call back  
Jan 2*

Mr. Morton Blackwell  
Special Assistant to the President  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. Blackwell:

I would like to take this opportunity to renew our brief acquaintance - if you recall we met at the Native Youth Summit, an Indian youth leadership conference this past May. Just prior to your remarks, we had discussed the then recent victories by College Republicans seeking to take over student senates on campuses. While needless to say, I am approaching you in another capacity, as President of the American Student Association, which is the largest student association in the world. This recent development has proven to be enlightening, it gives me the rare forum to advocate both student and Indian concerns.

Thus, I would like to offer you any assistance I can, either in monitoring student opinion or attempting innovatively address any Indian concerns we may share.

I realize you have an array of responsibility and if I can assist this administration in solving any problems please let me know. I have also taken the liberty to enclose a few news articles, which were done back in Wisconsin on myself.

Sincerely,



Michael Chapman, President  
American Student Association

Enclosure

P.S. I noticed a few years ago you did a workshop for A.S.A. at our annual convention.

Friday, July 30, 1982

# Mike Chapman student head

By David M. Wilhelms  
SEL Regional Editor

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Michael Chapman has barely had time to digest the news of his newest honor. On Tuesday, he was elected president of the American Student Association, the largest national student organization.

Breathless that "my life has abruptly changed in the past 48 hours," Chapman relayed the news of his election and some of his plans during a telephone call from California. The executive director of the United Council representing all Wisconsin student groups was chosen at the association's annual convention in Washington, D.C.

Chapman, son of Lucille Chapman, Menominee Indian Tribe chairwoman, is the first Indian elected to head the association. He was only one of four Indians among 700 delegates from 50 states at the convention. He said he will next be home to attend the Land of the Menominee powwow during the first weekend in August.

The association represents 4.5 million students at 450 schools and includes half of the black institutions, Chapman said. He takes office in three weeks.

Chapman, 22, said he did not go to the convention as a candidate but had gone to Washington a week early to help set up the event. He said he was drafted on the strength of a workshop he helped to present on "The Past, The Present and The Future." Chapman was chosen on the first ballot among three other candidates with 52 percent of the vote.

The 12-month term will involve extensive travel in this country and abroad as the U.S. representative to the International Student Association. The international group will meet this year in Geneva, Switzerland, Chapman believed.

Chapman has a number of changes in mind for the association that he characterized as "not offering a great deal of services...I want to try to represent all of the student issues...and recognize the full potential of the organization."

The new president's priorities include minorities, women, financial aids, private schools and public schools. To advocate these issues, Chapman said he wanted to provide more services to students and to get involved in politics and lobbying.

To accomplish that, he said he hoped to spend the first 60-90 days of his administration seeking grants from private sources to add staffing for those services and lobbying. The association is headquartered in Washington, D.C. and the association will make its presence felt on Capitol Hill, Chapman added.

## •Chapman: comments

Continued from page 1

Assessing the record of President Ronald Reagan in student issues, Chapman said the President "had been detrimental in general" but added Reagan's policies may serve to mobilize students to a level not seen in recent years.

### Extensive political background

Chapman has an extensive political background, starting with the United Council. In April 1981, he became that group's administrative director, moving to the executive director's post in June. He has a staff of five for a group that represents student interests before the University of Wisconsin Regents, the state legislature and Higher Education Aids Board.

He was a Congressional intern in 1978 for then-Representative Fr. Robert J. Cornell, D-DePere. Chapman went to University of Wisconsin-Green Bay that fall and in the summer of 1979, went to work for tribal leader Gordon Dickie as an administrative assistant.

He also has worked with Ada Deer, another Menominee leader. In the fall of 1979, he started classes in Madison, working on political science and communications.

He has said that he would eventually like to return to his tribe after a stint in Washington learning the federal bureaucracy.

# UW student heads US group

By Don Behm

Special to The Journal

**Madison, Wis.** — His election July 26 to the presidency of the American Student Association — the largest student group in the country, with 50 member colleges and universities representing more than 4.5 million students — was an exhilarating experience.

Two weeks later, Michael Chapman, a Menominee Indian from Keshena who is studying for a political science degree at the University of Wisconsin, cannot talk about his new job without first thinking back to the group's convention.

Chapman begins to laugh. It's a pride-filled chuckle that interrupts the story every few minutes.

The American Student Association had convened its annual meeting at the Hyatt-Regency Hotel in Washington, D.C.

There were late-night phone calls, expressions of support if he would run for the office, victory on the first ballot and a few minutes to prepare his acceptance speech.

It's official and Chapman is moving to Washington this weekend.

He is the first minority president of the group, which was formed in 1978 to provide campus leaders with information on legislative proposals

that would affect higher education programs in the country.

Chapman said the ASA had published well-informed newsletters, but it had not developed into an effective lobbying voice.

"The group is desperately short of staff positions now," he said. "We need people, as lobbyists, in minority affairs and women's issues."

He said additional staff would help the ASA "reflect its diverse membership," which includes women's colleges, black and Indian colleges, and a large number of private schools.

Apart from the excitement of elec-

Turn to President, Page 3



Michael Chapman

Part 2

## President

# UW student wins election to US leadership post

From Page 1

tion night, Chapman made it clear that he jumped into the office with both eyes open. Moreover, he's prepared for the responsibility, the new president said.

### Leaving job

Chapman is leaving his job as executive director of the United Council of University of Wisconsin Student Governments. The council is a lobbying organization representing 12 campuses within the university system.

He will be paid \$12,000 for the year, but he said there would be opportunities to go as high as \$18,000 depending on fund-raising efforts.

The biographical sheet he presented to the other ASA delegates in July reflects several other qualifications for the group's top spot:

Congressional intern with Rep. Robert Cornell (D-Wis.) in 1978; a delegate to the American Indian Leadership Program in March 1981; chairman of the May 1982 Native Youth Summit in Washington, D.C., and a member of the Board of Directors of Skilled Jobs for Women in Madison.

Political life is in his blood. Chapman's mother, Lucille, is completing her third year as the elected Menominee tribal leader. She has served in tribal political offices for about 20 years, Chapman said.

"My memories of growing up all revolve around licking stamps and circulating literature," he said. All for his mother's campaigns.

Lucille's son jumped into university politics as soon as he went away to school. Chapman was elected a student senator at the University of Wisconsin — Green Bay in 1978. He gained a position on the multicultural advisory council at UW — Madison the following year.

His agenda for the ASA during the next year is largely the result of his experiences as executive director of the United Council.

He said "the impact of the United Council on the Wisconsin Legislature" could serve as a model for the national student group.

"United Council has been organized for 22 years," he said. Recent achievements include successful lobbying for changes in the statutes governing landlord-tenant relations and an amendment to add \$11.4 million to the university's biennial budget, according to Chapman.

### Express views

He plans to steer the ASA toward a more aggressive lobbying presence in Washington. He told the 700 ASA convention delegates:

"It is a crime that Capitol Hill does not have access to an organization representing 450 schools when debating the merits of educational funding."

He said he would be calling on congressional leaders to express his views on financial aid and the Department of Education. In addition, Chapman intends to monitor enrollment at black and Indian colleges around the country.

# American Student Association

1609 Connecticut Avenue Northwest Washington, D.C. 20009 (202) 223-6600

August 25, 1981

Morton Blackwell  
Special Assistant  
to the President  
The White House  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. Blackwell:

I wanted to take this opportunity to express my appreciation to you for your support at our 3rd Annual ASA National Student Convention.

Your active participation signifies that you care; that you care about the enhancement and the enrichment of the educational needs, concerns, and interests of college and university students everywhere. That's what ASA is all about, and that is what we should continue to work toward during the coming academic year.

I want to work with you in this regard, and look forward to hearing from you in the future. My best to you always.

Sincerely,

Bob

BOB JAMES, PRESIDENT  
AMERICAN STUDENT ASSOCIATION

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2 4/8/1983 B6

MICHAEL CHAPMAN TO MEMBERS OF  
ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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