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"Culture of the Haudenosaunee" Colloquium April 13

Orange, Calif. A day-long event on Friday, April 13 at Chapman University will examine the culture of the Haudenosaunee people (more familiarly known as the Iroquois), culminating in the dedication of Chapman's new special-collections library in honor of a famous American Indian athlete with a Chapman connection, Frank Mt. Pleasant. The day's events are presented by Chapman University's Leatherby Libraries.

The scholarly colloquium Culture and Contributions of the Haudenosaunee will take place in Beckman Hall, Room 404, moderated by Chapman faculty member Dr. Paul Apodaca, associate professor of sociology, with the participation of several members of the Mt. Pleasant family who are noted scholars and professors. A schedule and listing of panels and speakers is below. The morning session of panels is free and open to the public, and the Chapman community is encouraged to attend. Reservations are required, as seating is limited. Please contact Laurie Gates at x7742 (714-532-7742 if calling from off-campus).

Later that day, at 3 p.m., the new Frank Mt. Pleasant Library of Special Collections and Archives will be officially dedicated, on the fourth floor of Chapman's Leatherby Libraries. The naming honors the memory of Frank Mt. Pleasant (1884-1937), one of the notable Tuscarora Indian athletes of the early 20th century. (The Tuscarora were members of the Haudenosaunee/Iroquois Nation.)

Frank Mt. Pleasant was the uncle of Joan Mt. Pleasant, wife of former Chapman University trustee Stanley Chapman, Jr. Frank entered the Carlisle Indian School (also the home of Jim Thorpe) in Pennsylvania in 1904, where he excelled in track and football, coached by the legendary Glenn Pop Warner. Frank was also an Olympic athlete who participated in the 1908 Olympic Games in London, placing 6th in the long jump despite a ligament injury. Following the Games, he attended Dickinson College, and became the first American Indian to earn a diploma from Dickinson in 1910. He later held numerous coaching positions, including the head football coaching job at the Indiana Normal School (now Indiana University of Pennsylvania). He served as an Army lieutenant in World War I and was decorated for bravery. His posthumous honors include being inducted into the American Indian Hall of Fame, the American Indian Athletic Hall of Fame, the Indiana University of Pennsylvania Hall of Fame, and the Dickinson College Sports Hall of Fame.

Billy Mills (born 1938), the luncheon speaker, won the gold medal in the 10,000-meter run at the 1964 Olympic Games in Tokyo a race that has been called the greatest upset in Olympic history. Mills, an Oglala Lakota, grew up on the Pine Ridge Reservation and was orphaned at age 12. He attended the University of Kansas on an athletic scholarship, and the track team won the U.S. outdoor national championships in both 1959 and 1960, while Mills was on the team. After college, Mills joined the Marine Corps and gave up running for a while, but returned to it in time to qualify for the 1964 Olympics. A virtual unknown, he was up against the great Ron Clarke of Australia, who was the world record holder and clearly the favorite in the 10,000-meter race.

Mills time in the prelims was a whole minute slower than Clarkes. But Mills stunned Clarke, the Olympic crowd and the world by surging past Clarke and all the other favorites, turning in a time 50 seconds faster than he had ever run before, and setting a new world record. Mills became the first American to ever win the Olympic 10,000-meter run and no one from the Western Hemisphere has done it since. He was inducted into both the U.S. Track and Field Hall of Fame and the U.S. Olympic Hall of Fame, and set several other records during his illustrious athletic career. He became known to an even wider audience as the subject of the 1984 film Running Brave, starring Robbie Benson.

**COLLOQUIUM: The Culture and Contributions of the Haudenosaunee
Friday, April 13, 2007**

Beckman Hall, Fourth Floor, Chapman University (Room 404)
8 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Panel Presentations: 9 a.m. to noon:

Moderator: Paul Apodaca, Ph.D., Chapman University An Overview of the Haudenosaunee

Jane Mt. Pleasant, Ph.D., Cornell University Iroquois Agriculture

Alyssa Mt. Pleasant, Ph.D., Yale University Iroquois Communities in the Early American Republic: The Case of Buffalo Creek

Donna Sabis-Burns, U.S. Dept. of Education My Journey to Self-Identity as an Iroquois Woman

LUNCHEON AND GUEST SPEAKER: Billy Mills Running Brave: The Story of an Olympic Legend

DEDICATION of the Frank Mt. Pleasant Library of Special Collections and Archives 3 p.m.

Speaker: Edward Farnham The Legacy of the Mt. Pleasant Family