

# Just Who Are Leaders of Blacks? UW Complains It Can't Find Out

By ROBER A. GRIBBLE

(Of The State Journal Staff)

University of Wisconsin officials have complained during recent negotiations on black student demands that they can't tell who the black student leaders are.

Black students themselves apparently prefer that no single spokesman or leader be identified.

AT A NEWS conference Friday, an 18-year-old freshman from Brooklyn, N.Y., John Felder, announced that he was empowered to speak for the entire Negro student body.

He also contended that Thursday night's torchlight march to the Capitol Building was led by the entire black student community on campus.

**OTHER BLACK** students have held press conferences from time to time, and some of those same students have met with University officials on the 13 demands made by black students.

Some claim to speak for all black students. Others admit that they speak only for themselves.

Felder said he spoke for the Black Council, a group that is apparently new on campus and distinct from the Black People's Alliance, a group formerly associated with the demands.

**KUELEWA FURAHA**, a freshman from Suffolk, Va., said the Black Council is a small group which is representative of the black student community. He said he did not know the exact size of the council, but implied it might have between 10 and 20 members.

"We don't have any leaders," Furaha maintained. "When people go into the chancellor's office and make derogatory statements about the demands — black or white — they aren't with us."

Furaha said that leadership of black students is rotated when it comes to "presentations and confrontations." A University official acknowledged that a form of "participatory democ-



**JOHN FELDER**

*Freshman Says He Speaks for Blacks*

ocracy" could be involved in the black student approach on demonstrations.

**WILLIE EDWARDS**, a Chicago freshman, has appeared from time to time as a spokesman for at least a part of the black student community. Generally regarded as one of the more militant black students, Edwards was reportedly associated with a Swahili group on campus that was isolated out from other black leaders in December and has apparently become the most militant.

Mandrake Connor, a Chicago sophomore, was once identified with what was considered the moderate wing of the black student leadership.

Mrs. Liberty Edwards, Willie's wife, has been a spokesman for the black students on occasions, and others reported to play leadership roles, at least periodically, are Kenneth Williamson, a Milwaukee freshman; and Bernard Forrester, a New York freshman; and Horace Harris, a Markham, Ill., graduate student.