## **EXECS**

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to the principal's office, because we were pretty much slandering the teachers and principals who were doing a lousy job ... I've always been this way. It's not some new thing that developed when I came to the University of Ore-

gon.
I think I've just sort of changed the focus. When I was in high school, I had an antiapartheid day - and this is in Coos Bay, Oregon, which has a

population of people of color of about 2 percent and most people didn't even know what (apartheid) was

When came to the University of Oregon I was involved with (the Gay and

Lesbian Alliance) and working on issues in feminism and women's rights. And then I became the director of GALA, and that was a great experience for me. I did everything wrong that

Anything that you could possibly do to screw up an organization, I did. But that was a really great learning experience for me. And then I became chair of the National Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Student Caucus and I'm the chair again this year. That was great because I started to network with lots of people in other areas of the nation who were doing the same sort of work that I was doing, that I was frustrated with doing, and they were showing me ways of success.

I ran for the IFC primarily because I was a program director and I thought it would be great to have someone who's a program director back on the IFC. And I also firmly believe that you should have people of color, lesbians, women in positions of power. Plus, I thought I could do a better job than everyone else that was doing it, which is why I ran for president as well. I mean, I've always been committed to grass roots activism.

It's really strange sometimes to realize that I'm now in a position that I always used to go up against. Now I'm the one who's trying to quiet people down who are rallying and screaming, and that's where I used to be. But it gives me perspective. I know where they're coming from.

JoSonja Watson: Andy Clark (the 1989-90 ASUO president) sucked me into all this. The year before last he talked me

into running for the IFC, and I went ahead and did it, but I didn't know what I was getting into. And I was like, "Well, Andy, I won, now what do I do?" And anyway, I got in there and did the best I could and then Jen sucked me into this one. Really, I like to go places where I'm needed and I think my presence is needed and, I don't mean to be cocky, but I think people appreciate me for the little things I do.

ODE: What are the main issues and problems that the ASUO will deal with this year?

down who are rallying and screaming, and

JB: One of the biggest ones is

the fact that our tuition sky-

rocketed and will probably

continue to skyrocket and that

students who really haven't

been paying attention throughout the entire Ballot Measure 5

process are going to come back

and are paying close to \$900 in

tuition and they're going to go

into shellshock over that. I

think we'll be dealing with

that, trying to figure out ways

to lessen the burden. That's one

ODE: What kinds of ways

JB: Well, working on trying

to get people more aware of the

financial aid that's available for them. There's a bill that's in

Congress right now. It's a bill

that would publicize the availa-

bility of financial aid. Instead

of "Be all you can be, be in the

Army," It's "Be all you can be,

get a Pell grant or get a Stafford

loan." It's to let people know

that they can do that. Lobbying on the federal level is another

thing we're planning on doing.

JW: Everything that's going to be a biggie, it all revolves

around our theme during our

campaign, which was access to

higher education. We're going

to follow through on our prom-

ises and make sure that accessi-

ODE: What are your goals for

JB: One of my goals is to defi-

nitely get the student-parent or-

ganization set up on this cam-

pus, because of the changing

demographics on this campus

been pioneering this group

graduate, that the organization will not die with them leaving.

domestic partnerships and fam-

The other thing is the issue of

so when people who have

bility is a little bit easier.

will you deal with it?

that's where I used to be.'

'It's really strange sometimes

position that I always used to

who's trying to quiet people

go up against. Now I'm the one

to realize that I'm now in a

ily housing. I want gays and lesbians who have domestic partnership agreements, and also heterosexuals who have domestic partnership agreements, to be allowed into housing. That's a clear issue of discrimination and I think the ASUO is going to fight that one.

My other goal is that ... you know, when I look around at other universities, U of O really has a lot. We bitch about never having enough, but we have a lot of wonderful programs that other universities don't have. What I want to do is set up a

program where people with common agendas, such as higher education and access to education, can er, and that's

Bring that making II

strong, it would be a incredible lobbying force on this campus. We're trying to get it there, to get it autonomous, to make sure that it will outlast any president and be a strong force at the University of Oregon.

Jennifer Bills

My goal is also to remain sane and graduate at the end of

ODE: What will be different or unique about the ASUO this

JB: I think we'll be action-ori-

JW: We want to be pro-active rather than reactive.

IB: I think a lot of us in the ASUO are committed to setting stuff up that will last for awhile.

ODE: Such as?

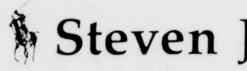
JB: Such as the Student-Parent Association and also our Student Coalition, which is the defunct Programs Council that's being revamped.

IW: Closer networking with programs, just overall better or-

JB: The ASUO is always having to put out small fires that POLO RALPH LAUREN



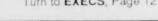
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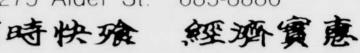
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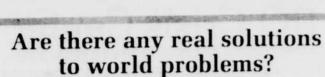
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