

Special Election Issue



Everyone is flocking to the polls, so why don't you? Spring elections are this week and next.

Eric Bailey

Endorsements meant to provoke, not decide

By Lisa M. Colby
Editor

Each year, *The Trail* has had the audacity to print endorsements of the ASUPS election candidates. How do we justify such an abuse of power? "Unfair, Unjust!" scream students at the top of their academic-infested lungs.

Like many things, the best way to explain what the Endorsement Board is, is to explain what the

Endorsement Board is not. Endorsements *are not* the sole decision of *Trail* staff members. They are a joint effort of people representative of all aspects of the campus community.

The Endorsement Board is not the final word on who is going to win or lose the election. It is merely an avenue to inform, solicit interest and provoke questions from otherwise apathetic voters.

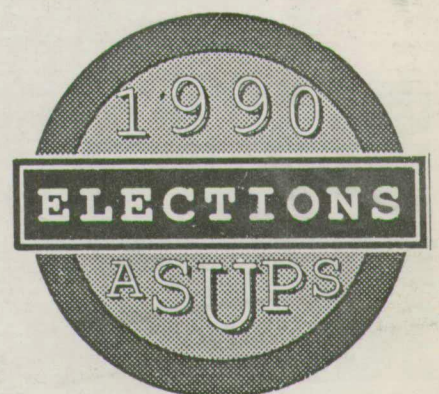
The Board used a specific set of criteria when endorsing candidates. Here are the qualities that they thought were most important: good interpersonal skills, enthusiasm, leadership experience, open-mindedness, dedication, concern for others, and organizational skills. Although no candidate can be expected to possess all of these qualities, leading candidates maintained an overall balance of them.

The Board found the executive candidates to be exceptionally experienced this year and the choice of endorsement was not an easy one to make.

The Endorsement Board members do not, bless their hearts, suggest that you simply vote for those candidates endorsed. Rather, the goal is to use the endorsement issue as a guide to make your own opinions about the candidate's qualifications. You can do this several ways:

1. Make an effort to get to know the candidate. Find out who they are, they are usually highly visible. Then ask them some of your own questions ... Get personal.

2. Attend the open forum on Sunday, March 4, at 9:00 pm while you're munching pizza in the



Cellar.

3. Go watch the candidates speak between 11:00 and 2:00 in the Rotunda, March 5. This is a good opportunity to see how they communicate in a public setting.

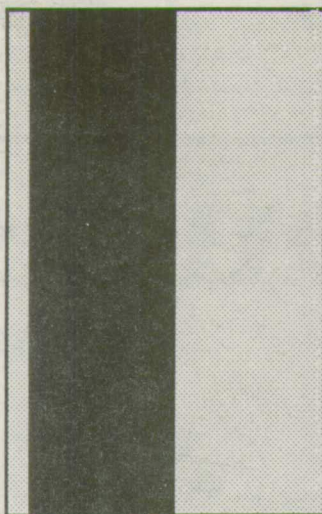
4. Read the candidate's statements printed in the Feb. 22 issue of the *Trail*. Decide for yourself how eloquent these writers are, or if eloquence is even a priority for office.

Ultimately, we want you to make the choice. That means you have to vote. They say that guilt isn't a good motivator so I won't remind you that only 730 students voted in last fall's senate elections. Do you want a handful of students to make the choices for you? You have the means by which to make an informed decision, now take action and vote in the primaries, March 1, and in the general elections, March 6.

Endorsement Board Members

Vance Atkins	Off-campus student
Michaele Birney	Trail Asst. News Editor
Don Frank	Trail Photo Editor
Jill Grew	Panhellenic representative
Wanda Isner	RHA rep., Greek affiliate
Robert Reynolds	Trail News Editor
John Schussler	Lectures Committee

Presidential Candidates

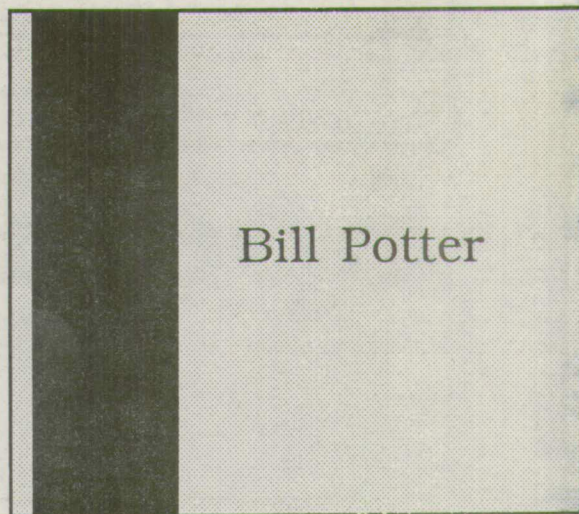


Scott Reader

The Board does not endorse Scott Reader for the office of ASUPS President. Though Scott has proven himself to be an active part of the Puget Sound community with his involvement in a number of activities and organizations, the Board concluded that he is unable to be a truly effective leader. Some questions have been raised about his performance in certain jobs which the board found troubling.

The Board thought that Scott lacked motivation and enthusiasm, two things that are a must for the president. He tends to take too many sides of an issue and does not come to concrete decisions very easily. Scott also failed to provide a tangible course for student government, and the Board thought that his somewhat laid back approach to issues would prove detrimental.

Scott's concerns for the alumni and the administration appeared a little out of balance with student interests. The board recognizes the value of a president that can work with the administration, but does not believe this should be the top focus for this office.



Bill Potter

The Board endorses Bill Potter for the office with his speaking ability, firm ideas, and extensive experience. Under pressure, Bill demonstrated quick analytic skills.

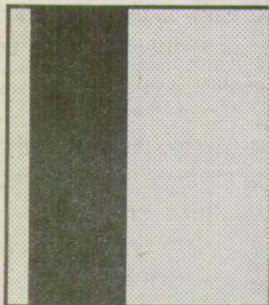
He is a natural leader. As Union Board Chair he has brought people together. Bill's calm mannerisms and open nature make him a good group person and does not appear to be afraid of tackling difficult issues. He is working with all campus groups to bring "real" unity to the campus.

One of the more challenging duties for any president is to be a diplomat. This requires someone who can be diplomatic and confident in their views and decisions. Bill clearly excels in these areas.

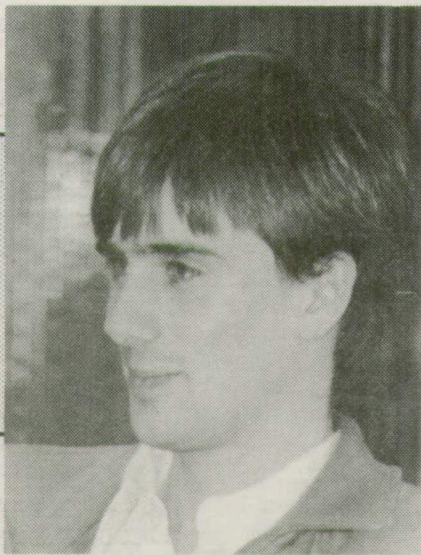
As an active member of the Student Programs Office, Bill is a natural player. In his work with the student programming committee, many things have happened. To accomplish this one must be willing to sacrifice personal interests.

Bill is prepared for the role of president. He has the experience and has done an excellent job in all of these positions. He offers the most, and who will give the most.

Vice Presidential Candidates



Eric Konzelman



The Board endorses Eric Konzelman for the office of ASUPS Vice President. Overall, the Board thinks that Eric has many strong qualities to aid him in the role of vice president. Eric's one shortcoming is that at times he can be over-structured. Eric is extremely particular in seeing that meetings are run by a strict agenda, and the Board is concerned that this might stifle discussion when discussion is imperative. Although organization is necessary, we would encourage him to adapt a more temperant attitude in dealing with structural concerns.

He is a very hard worker who is genuinely concerned about improving ASUPS for the sake of the students. He is open-minded yet firm. Eric has a good knowledge of the university and the student government. He would be well equipped for assisting the president and working with the senate.

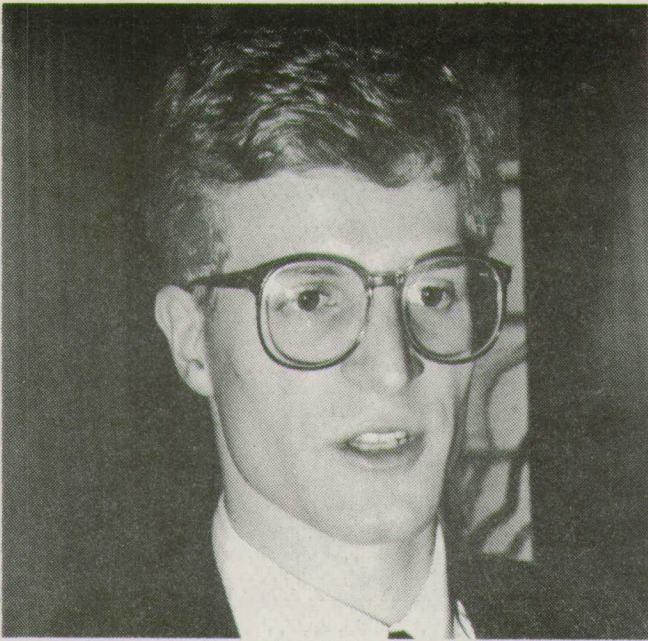
The vice president sits on numerous committees and boards. To accomplish this task the person must be extremely organized. The Board thinks that he has the experience and skills necessary to successfully fulfill the office of Vice President.



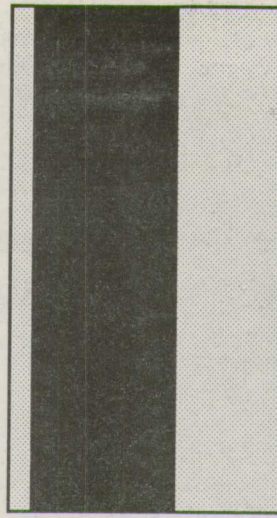
John Otter



The Board does not endorse John Otter for the position of ASUPS Vice President. While the Board commends John for his active participation while a senator, there is concern about his motivations for running for the vice president position. He has admitted feeling "burned out" regarding ASUPS, and though he now states that he has become re-energized, his lack of preparedness and enthusiasm seem to prove otherwise. John said that he was talked into running for the office and the Board does not think this is a strong enough reason to seek the position.



of ASUPS President. Bill impressed the Endorsement Board with his experience in nearly all aspects of student and university life. While Bill is not a politician and a strong knowledge of student needs. Bill has worked for student interests and brought many divergent groups together to make him an accessible leader. He is genuinely interested in all student issues and serious issues. As a leader in RHA, Bill has learned the value of hard work to accomplish a stated goal such as Casino Night. The presidential election involves working with the university administration and the faculty. He is articulate, and rational. Most importantly, the president must be able to possess the skills demanded of the president in dealing with these issues. In the office, Bill has shown that he knows what is required to be a team player. Bill is one of the behind the scenes persons who make the event happen. He is able to do what is best for the program rather than considering their own interests. He has served in some capacity with nearly every major campus organization. The Board believes that Bill is the presidential candidate who can



Alison Anderson

The Board does not endorse Alison Anderson for the office of ASUPS President. Alison has many outstanding qualities, even so the board could not give her a full vote of confidence. She is knowledgeable about ASUPS, organized, and experienced with campus politics. She also seems sympathetic, to a degree, to the students' needs on campus. However, the Board sees many of her ideas as superficial and reactionary. Her opinions on issues often seem based upon pre-planned agendas, as opposed to taking an open-minded, intellectual approach.

She came across as being very individualistic rather than a "team player" in her ideas and speech, qualities the Board thinks would not be beneficial in the presidential office. Some of her ideas seem too political. In many instances it appeared that she was simply "doing something" for the sake of appeasing a certain special interest.

To some degree her presentational skills were also lacking. This forced the Board to question her ability to express ideas calmly and rationally to groups of people such as the students and trustees.

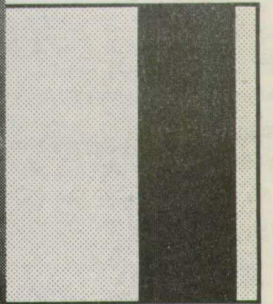
Senatorial Contenders



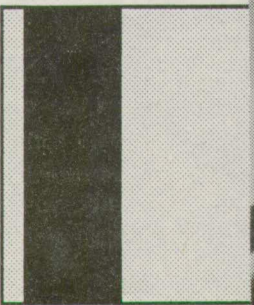
Richard Davenport

The Board does not endorse Richard Davenport. The Board thinks that Richard would bring a new perspective to senate and represent the ideas of non-traditional students on campus. However, his lack of knowledge and experience in the workings of ASUPS is a concern, along with his hesitant nature in dealing with people on a large scale.

The Board does not endorse Matt Holm. Though Matt came across as a strong individual who will stand firm for his ideas with honest sincerity, the Board thinks that his inexperience and lack of knowledge about the issues would not enable him to be an informed and active senator.

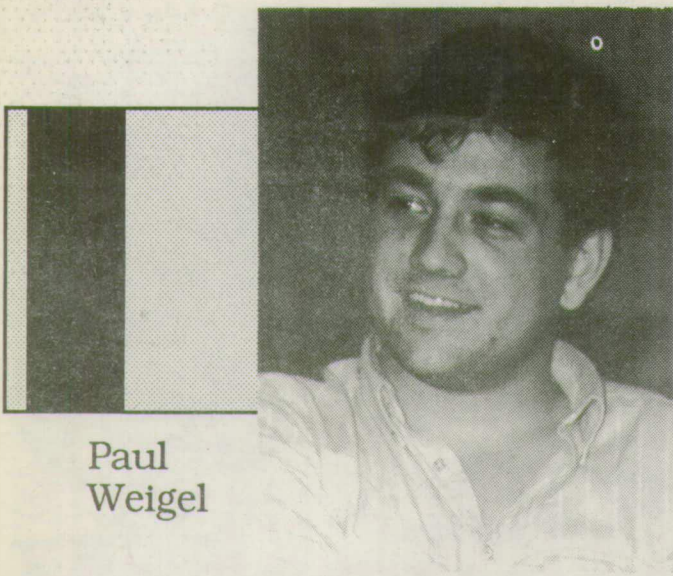


Matt Holm



Lisa Matye

The Board endorses Lisa Matye. The Board felt that Lisa was clear, focused, and able to represent her ideas well. She is highly experienced and knowledgeable about the university as a whole, and seems able to express diverse views in an articulate and unbiased fashion. Her enthusiasm and organization can only add to the senate.



Paul Weigel

The Board does not endorse Paul Weigel. Although Paul was composed and had well thought out ideas, the Board thinks that he needs more experience in dealing with issues at the student level. The Board thinks that Paul would be reluctant to expand his vision beyond the philosophy of the administrative bodies. However, with a more realistic attitude towards current students' wants and needs, the Board thinks that Paul could become a contender in future campaigns.



Bryce Stirlen

The Board does not endorse Bryce Stirlen. Bryce's strongest point was that he definitely planned on being actively involved in senate throughout his entire term. But the Board could not determine what he would be involved with in the senate. Bryce has few concrete goals, and tends to rely on the opinions of others before committing to his own.



Herman Westreich

The Board endorses Herman Westreich. Despite the fact that Herman can be too strong-willed, the Board thinks his other qualities will overcome this weakness. His experience on campus, commitment to the diversity issue, and honest concern for the betterment of student life make him a well-rounded candidate for the senate position.



Leslie Skinner

The Board endorses Leslie Skinner. Though the Board questioned Leslie's overall ability to get along with diverse groups of people, it was thought that her experience within ASUPS was valuable and she did have many good ideas. At this point Leslie appears reliable, organized, and efficient. Her high energy level may be helpful when focused on senatorial projects. Leslie came across as a student who will devote her attention to the job and not get caught up in the politics of the position.

ELECTIONS:

PRIMARY-MARCH 1

GENERAL-MARCH 6

FIND OUT ABOUT ALL OF THE CANDIDATES AND VOTE

Vote

