

Council of Governments Thursday night that a new physical education building will be constructed at the college this year, but it could be expanded into a community center

gathering other than the Marriott Center on BYU campus, and it is almost impossible to book that," he told the group.

County big enough," he declared. He said people at the Marriott Center told him they could almost fill such a community center with the events they turn down.

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## Gay rights in Utah a surprise movement

Perhaps the most surprising political development in Utah during 1990 was the visible activism of the Utah "Gay Rights" movement.

In June Utah witnessed its first "Gay Rights" march in Salt Lake: 200 "gays" and lesbians paraded from the state capitol to the Arts Center. A featured speaker at the march was — who else? — Michele Parish-Pixler of the Utah ACLU.

With the exception of a few brief stories on local television news, the Utah media were quiet about the "Gay Rights" march. Such reticence is forgivable, as there are few things as needlessly unpleasant as a discussion of private sexual practices. However, the political activism of the "Gay Rights" movement depends upon making public the private predelections of homosexuals; now that the movement has made the private public, there are useful questions that can be asked.

First: the Utah "Gay Rights" movement claims to represent 150,000 homosexual Utahns. How was this number arrived at? It is probably an estimate based upon the "finding" of the Kinsey study that one in 10 American males will experience a "same-sex attraction" at some point in his adult life. This "finding" does not translate into the fact that one in every 10 American males is homosexual.

Further, more recent scholarship has provoked a re-assessment of the Kinsey figure; a more realistic estimate would be that homosexuals compose about three percent of the population.

We are, therefore, dealing with a much smaller portion of Utah's population. The second question, therefore, would be this: How was the "Gay Rights" movement appointed to speak on behalf of Utah homosexuals? In Utah — as is the case elsewhere — homosexuals are largely silent about their inclination, properly considering the subject to be a private one. Is the silence of Utah's homosexuals to be taken as consent regarding the agenda of the visible "Gay Rights" movement?

Among Utah's homosexuals, there are many who consider their "orientation" to be not an entitlement but an affliction. For those who are not intoxicated by the emancipating sense of victimhood, the Evergreen Foundation offers an alternative.

The Evergreen Foundation is a private organization that offers help to men seeking to overcome homosexual tenden-



Will Grigg

At Home

cies. Evergreen has been active in Utah for about three years; there are six chapters of the group in Utah, including a Provo branch. The group does not evangelize among homosexuals; rather, it makes itself available for those who are seeking help. Those who turn to Evergreen are offered a systematic approach modeled upon the program of Alcoholics Anonymous.

An Evergreen spokesman summarized their approach: "We are making the declaration that one does not have to be gay. This strikes at the root of same-sex orientation, particularly in its political aspect. It's much easier to take the martyred role than it is to take responsibility."

The political viability of the "Gay Rights" movement depends upon cultivating a sense of victimhood among homosexuals, a sense of helplessness that can only be remedied through political activism. Evergreen presents the possibility of individual liberation through healing.

Evergreen has "no enemies to the right"; once its objectives are made clear the group is received favorably by many traditional Utahns. However, the group's mere existence has engendered hostility among "Gay Rights" activists.

During the Evergreen convention in Salt Lake City last May, "Gay Rights" activists from San Francisco and Los Angeles prowled the parking lot, taking license plate numbers in an attempt to "out" homosexuals who were seeking Evergreen's help. Books that were placed by Evergreen in libraries have disappeared; posters advertising the convention were torn down minutes after being posted. Local television news programs ("Take Two" and "Utah 1990"), which were largely deferential to visiting "Gay Rights" activists, treated Joe Dallas and Jeff Konrad (lecturers at the Evergreen Conference) with hostile skepticism.

Utah has six months to brace itself for "Gay Pride Day" 1991, which will be June 23. The conflict has been joined, and it will not go away.

## County officials dislike lake bill

By JOSEPHINE ZIMMERMAN  
Herald Staff Writer

Utah County mayors and commissioners don't like a proposed bill creating a Utah Lake Advisory Council under the Utah Division of State Lands and Forestry, but they agreed Thursday night to work with the division in rewriting the

Scott C. Flandro, projects coordinator for State Lands and Forestry that they did not like the bill. Provo Mayor Joseph Jenkins suggested the board membership be increased from 13 to 15, with the additional two people coming from Utah County.

Flandro then revised the bill and

## Orton takes oath

BY JUDY FAHYS

Herald Washington Bureau  
WASHINGTON — Bill Orton, a bespeckled tax attorney and normally self-contained sort, cast his first vote in the House of Representatives with a shout.

Provo's new man on Capitol Hill wanted his voice to carry over the boisterous chatter on the chamber floor as he logged his first roll call vote Thursday.

"Well, I wanted him to hear me," Orton said, referring to the clerk, who was tallying re-election votes for House Speaker Thomas Foley, D-Wash., as required for the new Congress.

"It's kind of like people talking in church — you don't have a lot of patience with them," Orton explained. "I think the business facing this Congress is so important, we have to be serious about it."

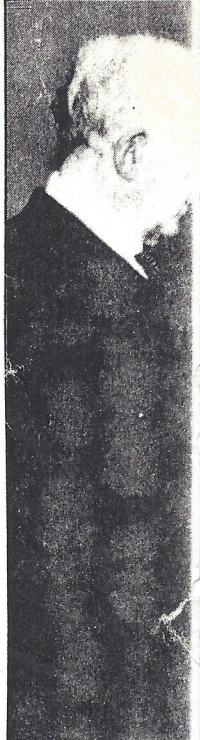
The ceremony officially opening the 102nd Congress was conducted en masse, with a sometimes jovial spirit lent to the occasion by the antics of red-cheeked toddlers — the children and grandchildren of members, who often join lawmakers on the House floor for special events. Orton's parents, Don and Carol, watched from the visitors' gallery along with his three sisters and his brother.

The party-like atmosphere gave Orton and the 43 other House newcomers respite from the hassles of hiring staff, arranging offices and finding time to brush up on some of the big issues that lie ahead: the recession, civil rights legislation and a new highway bill.

Yet, House veterans wasted no time launching into the serious business of attacking White House rhetoric threatening war in the Persian Gulf unless Iraq withdraws from Kuwait by Jan. 15.

President Bush has called on congressional leaders to seek a vote in support of a United Nations resolution supporting aggressive action if the deadline is not met.

But, following a morning meeting with Defense Secretary Richard Cheney and Secretary of State James Baker, Senate Majority George Mitchell and House Speaker Foley said they want to defer action until Baker returns next



House Speaker T  
parents, Don and

week from a meetin  
with Iraq Foreign  
Aziz.

Orton, who is sched  
a high-level Pentagon  
morning, said law  
address the issue wit  
voice. But he added  
under the U.S. Co  
president does not ha  
ity to strike against  
congressional approv

"War should be ou  
he said, emphasizing  
sanctions and fierce  
forts should first  
Orton said he also  
arrange a visit to S

## ACLU questions se

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — The American Civil Liberties Union is asking the state to investigate reports that children have been locked in isolation rooms as punishment.

In a new conference Thursday, ACLU-Utah Executive Director Michele A. Parish-Pixler asked the Department of Social Services and state Board of Education to look into a dozen reports by parents who claim their elementary school-age children have been locked in so-called "time-out" rooms.

She said letters have also been sent to officials of three districts —

Salt Lake, Granite  
asking them to prov  
with copies of the p  
of the rooms.

Lincoln Hobbs, di  
Juvenile Rights Pr  
ACLU, said the gre  
asking officials to pr  
their policies.

"Our initial inquiry  
information," he said  
questioning policie  
dures."

Parish-Pixler sai  
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who have been aske  
sent forms allowing  
be used. Others  
cause their child  
removed from  
placed in close  
fenses as minor  
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Beck told COG members that he has questions about the appointment process outlined in the bill. He said the state agencies mandated for the Great Salt Lake part of the bill are representatives of the boards of state agencies. However, the Utah Lake part of the bill calls for the agency directors.