

If you like years like 1989, then 1989 was a year for you

A few years ago there was a movie with an ad campaign that went something like this: "If you're the kind of person who likes this sort of thing, this is just the kind of thing you'll like." If you're the type of person who likes years like 1989, then 1989 was just the year for you.

According to the Utah Association of Women, on a typical day in 1989 we could expect to see 46 marriages in Utah, as well as 21 divorces. Thankfully, Utah remains below the lamentable national divorce rate. On the average Utah day in 1989, there were 23 births; there were also 13 abortions.

Two University of Utah scientists developed something that looked — from a distance, if you squinted — like something not entirely unlike "cold fusion." In response, the 'Gentile' world scoffed, "Can anything good come from Utah?" Perhaps they had in mind such dubious Utah exports as Roseanne Barr, who took time off from her labors (doing her bit to keep prime-time TV an open sewer) to refer to Mormons as "Amish Nazis."

Another former Utahn, Ted Bundy, met a well-deserved, if belated, end in Florida. The crowd outside Bundy's cell staged an execution celebration; their bloodlust blunted the distinction between Bundy's atrocities and the lethal justice meted out to him.

Examining Mormonism through the seerstone of psychoanalysis, Edwin Firmage prescribed racial and sexual affirmative action for the LDS priesthood hierarchy. This, he explained, would 'heal' the church of a psychic malady that was not obvious to the faithful.

Robert Redford, whom columnist Warren Brookes referred to as the "Meryl Streep of climatology," hosted a "Greenhouse Glasnost" session at Sundance. Global warming is a doctrine untainted with evidence (between the 1940s and the 1970s, as 'greenhouse gasses' accumulated, world temperature decreased substantially), but future Redford summits may yet produce enough hot air to make global warming a self-fulfilling prophecy.

A group of BYU students showed up at a pro-abortion rally holding aloft a banner reading, "BYU Students For



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Pro-Choice." This provoked speculation that BYU has been delinquent in teaching both ethics and grammar. Other student idealists have targeted "homophobia" as the next social ill to eradicate.

As Eastern Europe nations cast off socialism, a BYU professor suggested that we should consider the "positive aspects" of Marxism. The returns are in, Dr. Lyon; there are no "positive aspects" of communism.

Although as elusive as the legendary "Snark," PM10 has been pointed to by various clean air crusaders as the cause of numerous physical and psychological problems. Could PM 10 be the reason why the Cougars haven't repeated as national champions? I say we commission a panel to investigate.

The Utah Vietnam Memorial was unveiled, thereby giving television stations an opportunity to exploit private grief. Where is Joy Beech when we really need her? Pornography of grief corrupts as certainly as pornography of the flesh.

At the groundbreaking ceremony for the memorial, soon-to-be-ex-County Commissioner Morris reminisced about his combat days, in which he confronted such horrors as tepid Pepsi. Morris has decided to offer himself as a gift to the voters of the Third District as Howard Nielson retires from Congress.

Incumbency will be an asset of questionable value during the 1990s as taxpayers grow fed up with congressional scandals. In the voting booth next November, voters would be wise to contemplate the wisdom captured in a T-shirt inscription: "Kill them all, let God sort them out."

Given the stormclouds gathering around Capitol Hill, why would anybody possibly want to run for Congress? Well, if you're the kind of person who likes that sort of thing ...