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**F**our years ago when Bill Orton first ran for the Third Congressional District in Utah, people were skeptical. Some laughed. For a Democrat to attempt a political victory in the most Republican district in the United States seemed at best a stretch. But when the last vote had been counted, an astonished constituency and an equally amazed Orton were looking at a healthy 20 percent lead, a feat repeated in the 1992 election. Now an incumbent settled in his third term, Orton, it seems, has the last laugh.

"We continue to flabbergast everyone in Utah County and in Utah that a Democrat keeps winning," he says. "This campaign was no different than the last two. I campaigned on substantive issues. I just tried to outline for the people the problems as I saw them and what I thought the solutions ought to be. And I tried to avoid partisanship and to focus on issues that I saw and on what I thought should be done to solve problems."

"The last campaign and this campaign were virtually identical in that I had Republican opponents who, rather than trying to discuss or debate issues with me, simply tried to rewrite my voting record or history the way they wanted it written and then attacked me without substance or merit. I guess that's similar to the first campaign in that they attacked me for not being married. Their attacks all seemed to be nonsubstantive; they were not attacks on issues."

Although he faces a Republican majority in the 104th U.S. Congress, Orton is not scared by the Democrats' recent loss of power in the House of Representatives. Reappointed to the Budget Committee and the Banking

and Financial Services Committee his third term, he has made progress on the issues that initially prompted him to run for Congress: the federal budget deficit and government waste. Since his first election, he notes, the deficit has dropped 40 percent in real dollars.

"I think the most significant thing I achieved in the last year was freezing federal spending on nonentitlement expenditures for the next five years," Orton says. "I'm the one in the Budget Committee who proposed the freeze; it was passed as part of the budget, and the president adopt-



Bill Orton kisses a pig as part of a local-school fund raiser.

ed it. In fact, many of the economists are now saying that we need to extend the five-year hard freeze for another two to five years. By the way, the Congressional Budget Office scored the freeze as saving about \$78 billion over the next five years. That probably pays my salary."

Orton's knowledge of government finance has grown since his teenage years. While a high school student in Ogden, Utah, working part-time for the Internal Revenue

Service, he decided he wanted to be a tax attorney. Gaining some broad experience along the way, he served a Church mission in Oregon and finished a degree in anthropology and archaeology at BYU. He returned to the IRS and to Oregon, worked four more years, and came back to BYU to attend law school.

Knowing what he'd be doing when he graduated, Orton was more concerned about the end than the means. "My first year in law school I didn't even check my grades," he relates. He took every class offered in tax and business and graduated in the top third of his class.

Committed to education as well as to law, he conducted continuing education programs for real estate professionals, attorneys, and CPAs. More than 15,000 individuals have attended over 200 of his courses in 45 cities throughout the country. In 1986 he taught real estate tax planning and the 1986 Tax Act as an adjunct law professor at the J. Reuben Clark Law School. Before starting his first term as a state representative, Orton said, "When I leave Congress, I'd very much like to talk to the BYU Law School and have a more direct teaching relationship with them. I love teaching law."

Since his first election, a few things in his life have changed. Regarded at age 45 as one of the most eligible bachelors in Congress, Orton changed his marital status last July when he married Jacquelyn Elaine Massey, a professional lobbyist from Alabama. His wife attributes their union to destiny, saying, "In my line of work, you avoid romantic entanglements with congressional members like the plague." They now commute between their homes in Sundance, Utah, and Washington, D.C., and are expecting their first child this year.

"So far, being married hasn't affected my political career at all. If it does have an effect on it, it will be to shorten it," he laughs. On the other hand, he adds, "I refuse to allow my political life to impact my marriage and family life. If it gets to the point that it negatively impacts it, I'm leaving political life—that's it."

And being reelected twice hasn't shifted Orton's career path. "My plans haven't really changed at all," he says. "I only planned on staying in Congress as long as several things continued: First, the voters would have to continue electing me. At whatever point they think that someone else would do a better job, then that's fine with me. I'm ready to leave. But second, I will stay there only as long as I believe I have something more to contribute. There are a lot of issues that I'm in the middle of working on. I still see that I have a lot to give and a lot that we can accomplish."

"When one of three things wears out—either my patience and energy with politics, or the public's patience with me, or I run out of ideas and things to accomplish—when any of those things occur, then I'm leaving. I don't expect to have a whole lifetime career in politics. When I leave I plan on returning to the practice of law. And I would still love to teach law. I think the most enjoyable job I've ever had—and I've had many—is teaching. It's far more fun than being in Congress."

## ENID GREENE WALDHOLTZ

### Just the Beginning

**W**hen Enid Greene Waldholtz won on her second try for the U.S. Congress in November 1994, even her opponent praised her debating skills. Her 10 percent lead over the one-term Democratic representative, after a marginal loss in the 1992 race, confirmed Waldholtz's ability to defend her convictions.

The 1983 graduate of the J. Reuben Clark Law School polished her talents as a tough, agile debater before an impressed group of peers while at BYU. During her first year in law school, she was chosen Outstanding Oral Advocate in the moot court competition. President of the Women's Law Forum, she was comments-and-notes editor for the *Brigham Young University Law Review* for two years. Dean Constance Lundberg remembers Waldholtz as a particularly bright student: "What stands out in my mind is that she was always politically active. Enid's heart was always in politics. And she got along really well with people."

"I know she enjoyed law school," reflects her brother-in-law, attorney Jim Parkinson. "Over the years we talked about the cases that she was working on." Classmate Michelle Mitchell recalls, "We had some great debates about political and legal issues back then."

During the 1994 campaign, "Waldholtz's dominance of 18 debates impressed audiences with her ability to think on her feet and articulate her positions clearly," said her press secretary, Michael Levy. This performance, plus solid television ads and a direct-mail effort (by campaign manager David Harmer, a 1988 graduate of the Law School), captured for Republicans what many had thought was a safe seat after nearly a decade in Democrat hands. Despite trailing until the final week, Waldholtz held to a positive message of less government, improved law and order, lower taxes, and Congressional reform—all while skillfully handling her opponents' (Karen Shepherd and Merrill Cook) assaults.

Waldholtz's genuine interest in and ability to discuss the law began early, fueling an energetic career. The daughter of Utahns, she was raised in San Francisco during the 1960s, a time when waves of protest and violence shook the city. "I remember going to Golden Gate Park and watching the hippies dance around," she tells. "My parents tried to shelter us as much as they could, but when the schools turned violent, they decided to move back to Salt Lake City."

She is uncertain whether the civil unrest of the 1960s planted the seed of political interest in her but agrees that her interest began at a young age. "I was a very studious child—a nerd," she admits. "When my sister was hanging pictures of Andy Gibb on the wall, I was reading *U.S. News and World Report*. I was involved in debate and yearbook, Girls State, and Girls Nation and was very concerned about the issues."

As a teenager she began walking Salt Lake precincts for her cousin, who was campaigning for the city council. "I was always fascinated by issues and the many different solutions that were not always compatible with each other—and the process of deciding who chooses which solution," she says. "I knew from the time I was in junior high school that I wanted to be a lawyer, though there were no lawyers in my family."

After graduating from East High School, Waldholtz went on to Brigham Young University in 1976 and joined the Young Republicans, the youth arm of the party, by early 1977. At the age of 18, she was elected state chair of the Young Republicans, defeating three older male candidates. She is still convinced she can "outwork and outorganize anybody."

Participating in campaigns to elect Senators Orrin Hatch and Jake Garn, Waldholtz also worked as a campaign staffer for Dan Marriott. After a couple of years at BYU, she transferred to the University of Utah, where she completed a degree in political science. Returning to BYU, she enrolled at the J. Reuben Clark Law School and assumed a regional position with the Young Republicans. Of her law school days, she recounts, "Besides learning to cope with sleep deprivation, I learned to assimilate a great deal of information quickly and to focus on the heart of a concern."

After graduation, the new attorney joined the law firm of Ray, Quinney & Nebeker, specializing in commercial litigation. Reflecting on the experience she gained during her seven years with the firm, she says, "At our best, lawyers become problem solvers people turn to when they need help and whose judgment, discretion, and commitment they can

rely on. We need those qualities in Congress. As a trial attorney, I learned how to articulate my views—and the importance of thorough preparation and understanding my position." In 1984 she was named coexecutive director of the Reagan-Bush campaign in Utah with Jon Huntsman Jr.

In 1990 she got a phone call from Bud Scruggs, then chief of staff for Governor Norm Bangerter. He was looking for possible applicants for judgeships. At the close of the conversation, Scruggs said, "You're probably not interested, but I'm looking for a chief deputy."

"I was," she said. "I saw it was a great chance to work on issues, things like human services and ethnic and women's issues. I loved it. It was a chance to actually solve problems."

The following year Waldholtz was elected national president of Young Republicans, a volunteer position she held for two years. She resigned from the governor's office and, at the age of 34, announced her congressional candidacy after the 1992 legislature.

"Ever since she was a little girl, I knew she was destined to hold elected office," says Parkinson. "She had an enormous interest in politics. When she started her legal career, I would have been surprised if you had told me she would retire as a practicing attorney. I knew she would run for elected office."

When asked what motivated her to run for public office, she responded, "I feel very strongly that the federal government has been robbing individuals, communities, and states of the opportunity to control their own destinies. Whether by spending too much money, imposing too many regulations, or perpetuating a welfare program that traps people

in poverty, the federal government has become an obstacle instead of a positive force. It's time to change that."

Waldholtz is sensitive to the "tough woman" stigma. "People say I'm too stern," she says, "but I can't talk gently and sweetly about problems that are destroying our country. I believe passionately in what I'm doing." As one political analyst describing Waldholtz reasoned, "A woman candidate has a fine line to walk. On the one hand, she has to appear



SALT LAKE TRIBUNE

After her successful campaign, Enid Waldholtz accepts a congratulatory hug from former Utah State Governor Norman Bangerter.

tough enough to take on the old-boy political network; on the other hand, no female candidate wants to appear too difficult or overbearing.”

As it happened, gender was not an issue in Waldholtz’s campaigns since both times one opponent was also a woman. However, though her beliefs were firm and her experience strong, Waldholtz found that her young age (as well as her singleness in the 1992 campaign) *was* an issue—at least with her contenders. When confronted, she responded, “Wayne Owens was 35 when he was first elected to Congress. No one seemed concerned about his youth.”

Despite age and marital issues, Enid remained confident in her capabilities. Those who knew her best believed in her, too. “One of the things that I am most grateful for is the tremendous support I have had from my family and friends in all of my pursuits,” she says. Backing her statement, Parkinson says, “As a family we are enormously proud of her election results. But even more we are proud of what she stands for. I predict Enid will have a long tenure of service for the United States.”

Like fellow Congress electee Bill Orton, Waldholtz married for the first time during this past term. Noting the trade-offs between single and married life, she observes, “Political campaigns are inherently selfish pursuits at one level. You are constantly in the public arena, with more requests for your time than you could ever hope to meet. When I was single, I didn’t feel that the time away from home was as much a sacrifice. But my husband, Joe, has been incredibly supportive, and although I sometimes wish for more time with him, I am better able to do my job because of the strength he gives me.” When she went to Washington in December she decided to drop her maiden name, because “Enid Greene Waldholtz is a mouthful.”

She notes with amusement the stereotyping that comes with marriage. Only the third woman ever elected to Congress from Utah, Waldholtz finds that many people think her husband is the new member of the House. One mix-up happened when a government vendor was lending laptop computers to new members to try out. “The lady kept saying, ‘When your husband comes and signs for them, we’ll let you have them.’ It finally dawned on me that she thought he was the new member. I told her I was the member-elect, and her face turned a dozen shades of red,” she relates. “Representative Barbara Vucanovich heard us talking and told us to get used to it because it will happen all the time.”

As Waldholtz exercises the ability that won her a House seat, the element of amazement is shifting from her being a woman in an influential *position* to her being an influential *woman*. Before Congress convened in early January, Waldholtz was named to the House Rules Committee, the first Republican freshman on the legislation-shaping committee in 80 years and the first Utah member in decades. Those who know Waldholtz believe her when she said, responding to the appointment, “This is just the beginning.”

## CHRISTINE FOX

### Keeping the House in Order

**I**f Christine Fox’s constitutional law professor asks her what she thinks about state government in a federalist system, he doesn’t ask because he needs a volunteer or to cause her undue embarrassment.

He asks because he really wants to know.

That’s because Christine Fox leads a triple life.

She is a second-year law student at BYU’s J. Reuben Clark Law School, the majority leader of the Utah State House of Representatives, and a mother of six. So beyond preparing class outlines, writing briefs, and studying for finals in the first semester of her second year of law school, Christine also took care of two teenage daughters, ran her fourth successful campaign for the House of Representatives, and mounted a victorious battle to become majority leader.

Most students have a hard enough time juggling the pressures of law school without the added responsibility of a constituency. Christine has a unique coping philosophy that helps her through the invariable crises and obligations. “I take care of whichever ox is in the mire.”

“But my family comes first,” she says. For example, in the spring of her first year in law school, Christine spent every weekend on the high school rodeo circuit with her daughter, who was performing. “I also study at home, which is a little harder. Sometimes I don’t get started until after 10:00 at night.”

Hectic schedules are nothing new to Christine. She and her husband, Merrill, operated a dairy farm and a trucking company until 1987, when Merrill was killed in a farming accident. Merrill had been a member of the House and Christine filled his seat. Not content to remain a new kid on the block, in 1990 she was elected House assistant majority whip; in 1992 she was chosen to be the majority whip.

“I had a hard time concentrating this year during the election for majority leader. There was so much pressure, and I just kept thinking about the race.” Because the election resulted in victory, Christine has two years ahead of her to regulate the majority party’s agenda, meet with the minority party, the governor, and the Senate, and oversee the action on the House floor. It seems as if the pressure will never end.

Christine graduated from the University of Utah in 1993, where she majored in political science. “I went back to school in 1984. My teenage daughters don’t know anything different. Mom has always studied.” Sometimes, however, it’s most important to be just Mom. “My children are very supportive, but I just learn to organize and budget my time

and make sure we spend quality time together as a family.”

The facets of Christine’s triple life do overlap. Being a legislator is helpful in Constitutional Law, she says, because it has given her an understanding of the balance of partisan politics and how it affects and is affected by the Constitution. Law school has helped her understand the effect the legislature’s actions have on the community.

Christine began law school envisioning a career in environmental law but has since decided she would rather see inside a court room and be a contract litigator. She hopes to go into a general practice firm with several attorneys and, someday, become a judge.

Until then, Christine will be keeping the House in order, taking finals, or writing papers—and being Mom.

## DOUGLAS SHORT

### A Team Approach

**W**hen Republican party leaders first approached Doug Short a year ago to recruit him to run for Salt Lake County attorney, he graciously declined. “At first, I was not particularly interested in running,” admits Short. “I had just moved to a new job

and had decided to cut back on my political activities to build my practice.” But they persisted. Short finally promised to run if the party could not find anyone else. They could not; he did run, with great results.

Another reason Short had been reluctant to run was his age. It had only been six years since he graduated from the J. Reuben Clark Law School with honors. (There is only one attorney in the office with fewer years of practice.) “No doubt there were many who thought I was too young to run an office where most of the attorneys have been there more than 15 years. I wrestled with that question myself, but decided that if I would just be smart enough to admit that I don’t know everything and listen to those in the office who do, I could do the job.”

Despite his professional youth, Short is an experienced politician and campaigner. Since graduating, he has been active in politics, serving as cochair of Sandy City Mayor Tom Dolan’s transition team, a member of the board of adjustments, general counsel to the Salt Lake County Republican Party, and coordinator of his father’s legislative races. Consequently, Doug had a strong political base from which to launch his own political career. He commented, “I ultimately decided to run because of my campaign experi-

ence and my grassroots network. I have done just about every possible job in a campaign, from planning campaign strategies and writing literature to stuffing envelopes and taking out the garbage.”

That hands-on campaign experience allowed Short to put together an extremely effective grassroots campaign. He is quick to point out that a campaign is not a one-man band. “I have to give credit where credit is due, and that is to my supporters, especially my wife, Christine, and my children, Lindsay, Jordan, Amanda, and Ryan. Most people do not realize the incredible sacrifices made by a candidate’s family during a campaign. They hand out flyers, put up signs, and surrender any semblance of normal family life. Of course, it helped to promise them a trip to Disneyland if we won!”

Short also appreciates his many volunteers and financial contributors. “It is overwhelming to have your family and friends show their faith in you by committing the great amount of time and financial resources necessary to win a campaign of this size. Of necessity, it really becomes a team effort and a team win.”

It is that same team effort that Short hopes to take with him to the county attorney’s office. On January 1, when Short begins his term, the office will for the first time in several decades be divided into two separate elected offices: a county attorney to handle civil matters and a district attorney to handle criminal prosecutions. Short sees this as a great opportunity for change.

Much of Short’s interest in public law came from his stint as the lead article editor for the *BYU Journal of Public Law* and from being an officer with the BYU Government and Politics Legal Society. “I did not come to law school intend-



Salt Lake Tribune

Douglas Short was  
elected Salt Lake  
County attorney just  
six years after Law  
School graduation.

ing to enter public law, but the programs were so interesting that my involvement grew until I found myself immersed. That involvement has now led me down a path I never anticipated but fully enjoy. I look forward to actively supporting the Law School’s public law program during my term.”

Despite the large task ahead as one of the youngest elected county attorneys in the state, Short keeps things in perspective. “The best benefit is that I will have more time to spend with my family now that I don’t need to worry about billable hours. My main goal for the next year is to coach my three-year-old’s soccer team, if I can keep up with them!” Given Short’s competitive performance so far, no doubt he can.