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OA/ID Number: 13770
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Folder Title:
Sen. Seymour Fundraiser 9/19/91 [OA 8328][3]

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Jeanie
Button
(Speechwriting)

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

September 17, 1991

DROP-BY GATHERING OF HEADTABLE PARTICIPANTS
FOR SENATOR SEYMOUR FUNDRAISING DINNER

DATE: Thursday, September 19, 1991
LOCATION: Century Plaza Hotel
Los Angeles, CA
TIME: 6:45 p.m.
FROM: Ronald C. Kaufman
David M. Carney

I. PURPOSE

To drop-by and greet headtable participants of Senator John Seymour's fundraising dinner.

II. BACKGROUND

Republican incumbent Senator John Seymour faces a tough race in 1992. Republican Congressman Bill Dannemeyer has announced he will challenge Seymour in the primary election. Candidate Dianne Feinstein is the only Democrat announced to challenge Seymour in the general election.

III. PARTICIPANTS

The President
Senator and Mrs. John Seymour (Judy)
Governor and Mrs. Pete Wilson (Gayle)
Governor George Deukmejian
Attorney General and Mrs. Dan Lungren (Bobbi)
Bob Hope
Chuck Norris
Sylvester Stallone
Andy and Debbie Williams
Bill Jones, State Assembly Minority Leader
Republican State Chairman Jim and Susan Dignan
Reverend Robert A. and Donna Schuler
Johnny Grant
Charleton Heston
Kevin and Cindy Costner
Loretta Young
Goldie Hawn
Don Johnson
Melanie Griffith

*White House
dinner?*

SEYMOUR DROP-BY
PAGE TWO

PARTICIPANTS CONTINUED:

Scott Baio
Jimmy Conners
Doanld O'Conner

IV. PRESS PLAN

Closed Press
White House Photographer
Political Photographer

V. SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

Please see Advance Office Scenario.

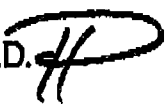
VI. REMARKS

None required.

September 12, 1991

MEMORANDUM

TO: Jeannie Bunton/Dan McGroarty

FROM: H.D. 

SUBJECT: POSSIBLE THEMES FOR THE PRESIDENT'S SPEECH

After kicking this around with the everyone in the "loop," here are some general thoughts and themes that we humbly submit for your review. If you need more info on any of these points, feel free to give me a shout at 224-9637 or 224-9652.

1) "SEYMOUR THE MAN" -- John Seymour is the embodiment of the California dream, coming here (Calif.) to seek opportunity and a better life for himself and his family. Fresh out of the Marine Corps and a UCLA graduate, he started with nothing and went on build a successful real estate business that employed 125 people. He knows what it's like to start up a business and meet a payroll (possible analogy with West Texas/Zapata??). Through hard work, he became a California success story.

2) "SEYMOUR THE PUBLIC SERVANT" -- Having become successful in business, Seymour reached a point where he wanted to give something back to the community and the state that had given him so much. So he chose to sell his business and devote himself full-time to public service -- Anaheim City Council, Mayor of Anaheim, State Senator from Orange County. And now, California's United States Senator.

(NOTE: Somewhere in Points 1 and 2 would probably be a good point to bring in the family aspect. John and Judy have six kids [note here -- by two marriages] and four grandkids.)

3) SEYMOUR THE ACCOMPLISHER -- In just the few short months he's been in Washington, Seymour has been a workhorse and a fighter for California interests.

He succeeded in getting five solid amendments adopted as part of the President's comprehensive anti-crime bill -- the most of any Senator not sitting on the Judiciary Committee.

He's stands with the president on critical measures needed to get the economy under control -- balanced budget amendment and line-item veto.

And he was with Bush when it mattered the most on a close vote -- his first vote in the Senate, 48 hours after being sworn in -- supporting the use of U.S. forces to kick Saddam Hussein out of Kuwait.

BUT while a lot of people and pundits in and around Washington focus on the bigger issues, John Seymour is one person who's not about to get a case of Potomac Fever; he's been back home nearly every weekend since taking office. When he is in Washington, he's been a real fighter for California's interests in Washington, and he's made a real difference in communities throughout the state.

It was through his hard work that farmworkers in the Central Valley were able to get aid and assistance to help them in the wake of last winter's Arctic Freeze. When heavy rains threatened to cause flooding in Santa Barbara last February, it was John Seymour who personally intervened in February to get a channel cleared in Santa Barbara, keeping two hundred families from losing their homes to floods.

And it was John Seymour who cut through the red tape to get a compensation check for a lady who was disabled on the job two years ago, and who had given up hope of ever getting help. Her guardian told this to Senator Seymour: "Today, when it seems that only people with wealth and influence can have access to politicians, it is very nice to run into someone who cares about the unfortunate, hardworking labor class person in need of help."

CLOSING THEME -- When you get to know John Seymour as well as I have, you'll agree with me that he provides the kind of leadership that California needs in the United States Senate. Join with me in helping to make John Seymour California's Senior United States Senator in 1992.

#

1991 SEP 12 PM 11:22

PRESS FAX TRANSMITTAL FORM

U.S. SENATOR JOHN SEYMOUR
U.S. SENATE
Washington, D.C. 20510
PRESS OFFICE MAIN LINE: (202) 224-9652

From A.D. Palmer

Please Deliver To: JEANIE BURTON

Company: MEDIA RELATIONS

FAX Number: 456-1651

Phone Number 456-7150

Number of Pages (Following This Sheet): 2

Date & Time Sent: 10:45, 9/12

REMARKS: Prior Discussion ...

- A.D.

11 September 1991

MEMORANDUM FOR DAN MCGROARTY

FROM: JEANNIE BUNTON

SUBJECT: MORE SEYMOUR (SEYMOUR FUNDRAISER)

Cocktails at 6:30 p.m., dinner at 7:30 p.m.

Celebs expected: Don Johnson, Melanie Griffith, Charleton Heston (Guns 'n Moses), John Travolta, Chuck Norris, Loretta Young, Tony Danza, Kevin Cosner

Dinner held in Los Angeles Ballroom at Century Plaza Hotel (across from FOX Broadcasting Headquarters), near the Reagan office building where the roof explosion scene was shot for DIE HARD movie. Century Plaza is on Avenue of Stars in heart of Century City - the center of live audience theatres. The 20th Century lot apparently is 2-3 blocks from 20th Century Fox Studios.

POTUS to meet celebs before dinner in the Bel Air Room ("green room"), there will be a large "head table".

Seymour is: pro-choice,
anti-crime,
anti-drugs,
against off-shore drilling,
co-sponsor of America 2000, (believes the family
is the proper place to decide where to send
kids to school,
voted for drilling in ANWAR,

WHAT SEYMOUR'S STAFF WOULD LIKE TO SEE:

0 "Quality of the man" -- traditional California story, came to California out of Marines, put self through UCLA, started own biz (entrepreneur) real-estate mortgage co. (John Seymour & Associates); through biz became active in government, in 78 elected mayor of Anaheim (where he did biz.), elected to state senate in 82, been in public service since, now U.S. Senator, only 8 months on job been very effective on Crime Bill, negotiated 5 significant amendments to Crime Bill. Staff at Senate Judiciary told Seymour staff that of all senators who are not memers of the judiciary, Seymour got the most amendments passed. Sworn in Jan 10, 91 and 48 hours later on Senate floor voted with POTUS on Persian Gulf.

ELECTION:

Under California law Seymour must run Nov. 5, 1992, and if elected, then again in 94 - when Wilson's term expires.

CALIFORNIA ED. STATS:

LA County drop-out rate is 27.9% as of 1990 (loss of students who start in the 10th grade and leave in three years, loss of an entire class - not just one year).

State of California graduation rates:

65.9 %; loss of 34.1% by attrition, ranking California 42nd in the nation. National average graduation rate: 71.1%, 28.9% attrition.

SATS:

1991 v:415; m:482 [47% graduates taking SAT]

1990 v:419; m:484

1981 v:426; m:475

OFFICE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS
THE COLLEGE BOARD

45 Columbus Avenue
New York, NY 10023

Telephone number: (212) 713-8000
Telecopier number: (212) 713-8184

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Cautions on the Use of Aggregate SAT® Scores

As measures of developed verbal and mathematical abilities important for success in college, SAT scores are useful in making decisions about individual students and assessing their academic preparation. Using these scores in aggregate form as a single measure to rank or rate teachers, educational institutions, districts, or states is invalid because it does not include all students. In being incomplete, this use is inherently unfair.

The most significant factor in interpreting SAT scores is the proportion of eligible students taking the exam—the participation rate. In general, the higher the percentage of students taking the test, the lower the average scores. In some states, a very small percentage of college-bound seniors take the SAT. Typically, these students have strong academic backgrounds and are applicants to the nation's most selective colleges and scholarship programs. Therefore, it is to be expected that the SAT verbal and mathematical averages reported for these states will be higher than the national average. In states where a greater proportion of students with a wide range of academic backgrounds take the SAT, and where most colleges in the state require the test for admission, the scores are closer to the national average.

Thus, to make useful comparisons of students' performance between states, a common test given to all students would be required. Because the percentage of SAT takers varies widely among the states, and because the test takers are self-selected, the SAT is inappropriate for this purpose.

In looking at average SAT scores, the user must understand the context in which the particular test scores were earned. Other factors variously related to performance on the SAT include academic courses studied in high school, family background, and education of parents. These factors and others of a less tangible nature could very well have a significant influence on average scores.

This is not to say, however, that scores cannot be used properly as one indicator of educational quality. Average scores analyzed from a number of years can reveal trends in the academic preparation of students who take the test and can provide individual states and schools with a means of self-evaluation and self-comparison.

By studying other indicators—such as retention/attrition rates, graduation rates, number of courses taken in academic subjects, or scores on other standardized tests—one can evaluate the general direction in which education in a particular jurisdiction is headed. A careful examination of other conditions impinging on the educational enterprise, such as pupil/teacher ratios, teacher credentials, expenditures per student, and minority enrollment, is also important.

Summaries of scores and other information by state, college, or school district can be used in curriculum development, faculty staffing, student recruitment, financial aid assessment, planning for physical facilities, and student services such as guidance and placement. Aggregate data can also be useful to state, regional, and national education policymakers, especially in tracking changes during a period of time.

Average SAT® Scores by State, 1981, 1986-1991

State	1981		1986		1987		1988		1989		1990		1991		% Graduates Taking SAT*
	V	M	V	M	V	M	V	M	V	M	V	M	V	M	
Alabama	457	488	476	514	478	515	480	520	482	520	470	514	476	515	8
Alaska	449	486	445	479	445	479	441	475	443	480	438	476	439	481	41
Arizona	476	514	466	509	463	505	455	500	452	500	445	487	442	490	26
Arkansas	477	510	482	519	480	521	479	516	471	515	470	511	482	523	6
California	426	475	423	481	424	482	424	484	422	484	419	484	415	482	47
Colorado	467	513	466	514	466	514	460	511	458	508	456	513	453	506	29
Connecticut	430	463	440	474	439	473	436	472	435	473	430	471	429	468	81
Delaware	429	470	442	475	440	470	433	466	435	468	433	470	428	464	61
District of Columbia	382	411	413	439	407	435	405	434	407	439	409	441	405	435	71
Florida	424	463	426	468	423	470	422	468	420	467	418	466	416	466	48
Georgia	390	426	402	440	400	440	404	444	402	445	401	443	400	444	62
Hawaii	390	464	403	477	404	477	408	480	406	482	404	481	405	478	55
Idaho	486	523	475	512	473	502	467	501	465	500	466	502	463	505	18
Illinois	459	508	466	518	463	521	464	520	462	520	466	528	471	535	16
Indiana	406	451	415	459	415	459	412	458	412	459	408	459	408	457	57
Iowa	515	566	519	576	515	574	513	577	512	572	511	577	515	578	5
Kansas	502	542	498	544	498	547	494	541	495	545	492	548	493	546	10
Kentucky	474	509	483	519	479	519	475	515	477	519	473	521	473	520	11
Louisiana	461	494	474	507	473	509	476	513	473	513	476	517	476	518	9
Maine	426	465	434	466	433	466	430	466	431	466	423	463	421	458	64
Maryland	423	461	436	475	437	477	433	475	434	480	430	478	429	475	64
Massachusetts	422	462	436	473	435	474	432	474	432	473	427	473	426	470	79
Michigan	456	508	462	514	459	513	457	513	458	514	454	514	461	519	11
Minnesota	486	539	482	540	472	531	470	531	474	532	477	542	480	543	12
Mississippi	473	502	485	516	487	521	482	519	472	516	477	519	477	520	4
Missouri	462	504	476	519	474	518	471	519	471	518	473	522	476	526	12
Montana	485	539	485	541	479	530	471	529	469	523	464	523	464	518	22
National	424	466	431	475	430	476	428	476	427	476	424	476	422	474	42

*Based on number of high school graduates in 1991 as projected by the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education, and number of students in the Class of 1991 who took the SAT.

MAKING COMPARISONS OF STATES, OR RANKING THEM, ON THE BASIS OF SAT SCORES ALONE IS INVALID AND STRONGLY DISCOURAGED BY THE COLLEGE BOARD.

For Release Tuesday, August 27, 1991

Average SAT® Scores by State, 1981, 1986-1991

State	1981		1986		1987		1988		1989		1990		1991		% Graduates Taking SAT*
	V	M	V	M	V	M	V	M	V	M	V	M	V	M	
Nebraska	489	537	493	549	488	545	487	545	487	543	484	546	481	543	10
Nevada	445	487	445	485	439	484	440	486	439	487	434	487	435	484	25
New Hampshire	439	479	450	485	450	488	446	487	447	485	442	486	440	481	75
New Jersey	414	450	424	465	425	467	424	469	423	471	418	473	417	469	74
New Mexico	474	510	489	527	484	525	478	524	483	532	480	527	474	522	12
New York	427	471	427	471	425	469	420	469	419	471	412	470	413	468	75
North Carolina	391	427	399	436	400	438	401	440	397	439	401	440	400	444	57
North Dakota	494	544	508	556	509	558	498	555	500	567	505	564	502	571	6
Ohio	457	500	460	503	455	499	452	499	451	497	450	499	450	496	22
Oklahoma	485	526	487	521	486	520	483	522	479	522	478	523	476	521	9
Oregon	431	469	444	486	444	484	441	482	443	484	439	484	439	483	54
Pennsylvania	421	459	429	465	428	463	424	462	423	463	420	463	417	459	67
Rhode Island	415	452	432	466	433	465	431	469	429	466	422	461	421	459	67
South Carolina	374	406	395	431	397	435	400	438	399	439	397	437	395	437	58
South Dakota	519	561	531	567	513	563	511	559	498	543	506	555	496	551	5
Tennessee	475	514	486	521	487	524	485	524	486	523	483	525	487	528	12
Texas	415	455	419	458	416	459	417	462	415	462	413	461	411	463	44
Utah	511	548	506	541	503	540	498	536	499	537	492	539	494	537	5
Vermont	427	467	442	474	440	474	437	472	435	470	431	466	424	466	68
Virginia	424	461	435	473	434	473	430	472	430	472	425	470	424	466	60
Washington	472	517	461	502	455	496	448	494	448	491	437	486	433	480	49
West Virginia	458	495	462	502	458	496	451	496	448	491	443	490	441	485	17
Wisconsin	477	533	478	536	475	534	473	534	477	536	476	543	481	542	11
Wyoming	478	528	484	534	483	533	474	527	462	516	458	519	466	514	13
National	424	466	431	475	430	476	428	476	427	476	424	476	422	474	42

* Based on number of high school graduates in 1991 as projected by the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education, and number of students in the Class of 1991 who took the SAT.

MAKING COMPARISONS OF STATES, OR RANKING THEM, ON THE BASIS OF SAT SCORES ALONE IS INVALID AND STRONGLY DISCOURAGED BY THE COLLEGE BOARD.

***CALIFORNIA SENATOR
JOHN SEYMOUR***

EXPERIENCE - LEADERSHIP - COMMITMENT

"I'll give you the magic formula. Serve the people of California and begin making a difference right away."

*Senator John Seymour, as quoted by
The Los Angeles Times, January 27, 1991*

HITTING THE GROUND RUNNING

EXPERIENCE

"Seymour--affable, blunt, ambitious and energetic--has served nonstop in California government since 1974....Seymour's track record in the Legislature suggests he will be an active U.S. senator--a man who plunges through a wide swath of issues, enjoys the give-and-take skirmishes of policymaking, and owns an adroit sense of political timing."

California Journal, February 1991

LEADERSHIP

"Since his appointment...Seymour has plunged into his new job, working 12-to-15 hour days, seven days a week. In his first short weeks on the job, Seymour...has dealt with the gulf war, written to Soviet leaders urging them to end their occupation of Lithuania and has called on President Bush to declare a state of emergency for 31 of California's counties hit by recent freeze damage."

Anaheim Bulletin, Jan. 26, 1991

COMMITMENT

"In the two weeks since Seymour...was sworn in...the war in the gulf has complicated what even in peacetime would be a daunting task--setting up shop in Washington. In addition to attending daily briefings on the progress of the war, Seymour has met with a half-dozen cabinet secretaries, considered recommendations for judicial appointments, started assembling a staff and begun plotting a legislative strategy."

Los Angeles Times, January 27, 1991

John Seymour should prove to be a capable U.S. senator

Gov. Pete Wilson's selection of John Seymour to succeed him in the U.S. Senate may not sit well with some conservatives, but the appointment should surprise no one.

Sen. Seymour, a self-described "political soul mate" of the new governor, is a long-time friend and trusted adviser who will reflect Wilson's views in the Senate.

The fact that Seymour's name was not on most of the published lists — he was at the top of one such list published only a few days after Wilson's Nov. 7 election victory — may have worked to his advantage.

Seymour, who has represented conservative Orange County voters in the state Senate since 1982, has accepted some political moderation in recent years. The most controversial of the shifts, of course, is his switch from a anti-abortion position to a pro-choice stance. He made that switch in 1989 after the U.S. Supreme Court's Webster decision.

But abortion is not the only issue where Seymour has had a change of heart. He now opposes offshore drilling for oil, a decision he says he reached in the wake of the 1989 Exxon Valdez disaster in Alaska's Prince William Sound, and he has supported tougher clean air standards in recent years.

Seymour backed the state Legislature's ban on assault weapons and laws to ban discrimination against AIDS patients. He also supported legislation to divest California holdings in South Africa.

Yet Seymour has retained a conservative approach to law enforcement and criminal justice legislation. He has backed tougher drunken driving laws, stiffer sentencing

requirements and the expansion of capital punishment.

Those positions won him honors as "Legislator of the Year" in 1988 from the California School Boards Association and awards from groups representing trauma victims, the handicapped and transportation. Few conservatives seem to be picked for such honors.

Seymour, of course, faces a formidable task. In addition to his new duties as a United States senator, he must raise money for an election campaign in 1992, when voters must confirm Wilson's choice, and he will need to run again in 1994 because the Wilson term will have two years left.

Despite the obvious temptation to do otherwise, Seymour already has pledged to run only for the two-year term and not for the more attractive full term that will be up in 1992 because of Alan Cranston's pending retirement. That is to Seymour's credit.

The appointment of Seymour also offers a glimpse at the kind of advisers the newly seated governor is likely to seek out.

Seymour and Wilson are longtime allies. They met while both served as mayors — Wilson in San Diego and Seymour in Anaheim. Both have undergone some shifts in their political views over the years, evolving from staunch conservatives into more pragmatic moderates. Both have experience in nonpartisan local government, which may make them more understanding of the plight of California's cities and counties.

The governor's conservative critics predictably have called the appointment a betrayal of anti-abortion Republicans and hinted that Seymour will face a challenger for the nomination in 1992. To view the appointment in the context of a single issue is to ignore the very basis for Seymour's selection — the pragmatic politics of California in the 1990s.

Overall, Gov. Wilson has selected an able and intelligent senator who can represent the diverse interests of Californians. We welcome Sen. Seymour's arrival on Capitol Hill. □



John Seymour

—NO KIDDING

Seymour good Senate pick

Gov.-elect Wilson's choice of State Sen. John Seymour makes sense in several ways. It is logical that Wilson's choice would reflect his political views.

In retrospect, Seymour was a dark horse only in the sense that he was not brought in for a post-election interview. Wilson did not need to sound him out on the issues.

But his nomination may raise questions. Seymour will have to go before the state's voters next year to validate his appointment. Two years after that he must go before the voters when Wilson's term would have expired. That is a daunting effort for someone without statewide name recognition. Compounding the problem will be a red-hot race for the seat held by Alan Cranston — waged at about the same time and possibly drawing off campaign funds.

Both Wilson and Seymour have similar backgrounds: former mayors and legislators, with records as moderates within the Republican party.

It is those similarities that may cause him the most grief. Already there are rumblings of defection, or opposition from conservatives in the party, who are opposed to Seymour's pro-choice position — the issue that cost him the lieutenant governorship nomination to fellow Orange County legislator Marion Bergeson, who is opposed to expansive abortion rights.

● Pete Wilson's choice for his successor in the U.S. Senate is a good one, even if conservative elements in the GOP don't like it.

In addition, Seymour is opposed to offshore oil drilling, supports term limits, the death penalty and the president's Persian Gulf policy, all positions held by Wilson.

We think it is good that such moderates as George Bush, Wilson and Seymour are resurgent in the party, slowly taking back control from neo-conservative Reaganites, just as more moderate Democrats seem to be emerging from that party's left wing.

Despite (or maybe because of) the Reagan years, had the GOP continued on its hard-right course, it would not have been a credible choice for voters. The two-party system has served the nation well and both parties have to offer credible choices to voters.

If the GOP right wing does oppose Seymour it may find itself in the same kind of self-defeating position it did when it sat on its hands in the Cranston-Ed Zschau race, and handed the election to Cranston. However much they did not cotton to Zschau, he was certainly more of a soulmate than Cranston ever was. We hope the lesson has been learned for the sake of the two-party system.

? WHOA!

A good choice

Once the initial surprise has subsided (although, we weren't all that surprised), John Seymour's selection to fill the remaining four years of Gov.-elect Pete Wilson's U.S. Senate term is a good choice.

He may ruffle the feathers of die-hard conservatives for his abortion position (he's pro-choice) and he may not be the biggest name considered for the job.

EDITORIAL

But, aside from being philosophically in tune with Wilson, Seymour also is in tune with what it takes to succeed in the Senate.

During his tenure in Sacramento, Seymour has shown a knack for getting bills through a Democratically controlled body. His prime achievement, authorship of a bill that permits the first toll roads to be built in the state, is an example of that tenacity.

Seymour also has authored bills on drunken driving and crime and legislation placing greater controls on the trucking industry.

While we don't always agree with his positions (the trucking bill smacks of too much government), we are generally impressed with his legislative record.

Lost amid the furor about Seymour's views and relative lack of name recognition statewide, is another reason why Wilson turned to him.

Wilson owes a lot to Seymour, politically, given Seymour's unfailing support during Wilson's 1982 and 1988 Senate campaigns and his 1990 governor's race.

While that loyalty is worth something, the people of California could benefit from it.

What a lot of his detractors don't realize yet is that the people could be getting something more than just a Wilson clone — in other words, someone not content to sit on the sidelines while others do all the work.

If Seymour's record in Sacramento is any indication, the people will get a hard-working senator who just might be able to influence things for the better.

That's a lot more than anyone can say about Wilson's Senate tenure — and a lot more than we've been accustomed to.

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Introduction

On January 10, 1991, California's newest U.S. Senator was sworn into office.

Chosen by Governor Pete Wilson as his successor in Washington, John Seymour, a fifty-three-year-old father of six, had served his Orange County constituents for nearly ten years in the State Senate at the time of his appointment by Wilson.

On January 12, within forty-eight hours of taking his oath, Seymour, a Marine Corps veteran, cast his first vote -- to give President Bush the authority to take military action against Iraq.

On January 16, America went to war in the Persian Gulf.

John Seymour's first 100 days in office were dominated by his concern for American troops and our cause of peace and freedom in the Middle East.

But Seymour also moved forward on other issues:

He pushed to get aid to California farmers and farmworkers devastated by an Arctic freeze;

He wrote legislation to help bring water to California, crippled by a fifth year of drought;

He cosponsored three major federal anti-crime bills -- to restore the death penalty, combat gangs and toughen penalties for crimes against women;

He fought offshore oil drilling along the California coast and sought ways to protect fragile areas of the California desert;

He endorsed numerous bills to create affordable housing opportunities for first-time homebuyers.

Seymour's reputation in California government as an effective legislator preceded him in Washington, where he earned committee assignments critical to California.

The Energy and Natural Resources Committee assignment puts Seymour at the forefront of efforts to protect California's coastline and promote cleaner air through alternative fuel use.

On the Agriculture Committee, Seymour looks out for California's number-one industry at a time farmers and ranchers are facing twin disasters of freeze and drought.

Seymour also joined the Governmental Affairs Committee, where he serves as the ranking Republican member of the subcommittee on general services.

In the U.S. Senate, Seymour will continue his leadership roles in substance abuse and in education, two issues in which he was deeply involved in the California Senate.

There, he chaired the Senate Select Committee on Substance Abuse, enacting bills to create a five-year plan to combat drug and alcohol abuse and criminalize sale and possession of rock cocaine.

As a member of the State Senate Education Committee, Seymour won recognition as the School Board Association's "Legislator of the Year" in 1988.

Seymour grew up in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. He served four years in the U.S. Marine Corps and graduated from UCLA in 1962 with a degree in finance and real estate. He built a successful real estate business and served as Mayor of Anaheim. He sold his realty company in 1981 to devote full time to his job as a State Senator.

John and his wife, Judy, are the parents of six children.

John Seymour shines at debut as Wilson's Senate replacement

By Bert Robinson
Mercury News Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON — A week after he was tapped as Pete Wilson's successor, little-known John Seymour took his oath of office as U.S. senator from California on Thursday, then aced his first quiz on national issues by fielding five minutes' worth of reporters' questions about the Persian Gulf.

Seymour, previously a state senator from Orange County and mayor of Anaheim, said the prospects for war left him "with very mixed emotions. A time that is probably the happiest day of my life is also very somber and serious. It's taken a lot of the luster away."

Though he had earlier promised to "hit the ground running" on issues important to California, Seymour arrived in Washington aboard Air Force Two on Tuesday night to find a city obsessed with

He aced his first quiz on national issues by fielding five minutes' worth of questions about the Persian Gulf.

just one issue. He spent much of his first few days in briefings and meetings on the gulf crisis, including a five-minute Oval Office session with President Bush during the lunch hour Thursday.

In the coming months, Seymour must create a political ideology encompassing a host of subjects new to him. He is expected to hew to the moderate Republicanism of his benefactor, Wilson.

Whether Seymour can be effective on the issues is a tougher question: Having lost a 1988 primary bid for lieutenant governor, he must spend enormous amounts of time in California if he hopes to win the Senate seat on his own in 1992.

In Congress, Seymour has indicated he will be somewhat less of an environmentalist than his predecessor. He will have ample opportunity to fulfill that pledge if he wins appointment to the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee and its Agriculture Committee, as aides predicted Thursday.

He must also negotiate his way through at least two controversies that deeply divided the Senate last year — civil rights and minors' abortions. Wilson cast the deciding vote against last year's Civil Rights Act and was a key opponent of laws that require a minor to seek parental consent before obtaining an abortion. An aide said Thursday that Seymour had not formulated a position on either issue.

Thursday, a gray-suited Seymour smiled through a 30-second swearing-in ceremony attended by just a dozen senators, then repeated the process in the picturesque old Senate chambers for 23 family members and a host of photographers. Afterward, facing the press, he promised to vote to authorize hostilities against Iraq.

"Saddam Hussein will hold us dangling until the very last minute and then try to cut a couple of slices from the loaf of bread," he said. "I'm convinced this president is firm in his resolve, and two slices aren't going to do it."



Associated Press

Sen. John Seymour chats with President Bush

Seymour digs into US Senate work but misses California

He faces tough job of making himself known for '92 race

By Jeff Weir
The Orange County Register

WASHINGTON — After three months on a treadmill of 15-hour days and weekly flights back to California, Sen. John Seymour decided to take a break.

He blew off politics for a Saturday and Sunday recently to reacquaint himself with his wife, Judy, and their two children at the new family homestead in McLean, Va.

"That was my first weekend with the family since I took office, and it rained both days," quipped Seymour, the Anaheim Republican who assumed Gov. Pete Wilson's Senate seat Jan. 10. "I really enjoy the work here, but I really, sincerely miss California. The lousy weather we've had just drives me up the wall."

The stormy weather might have been a nuisance, but it didn't douse Seymour's plans. He went bike riding in the rain with his 8-year-old son, Barrett, then hauled out the family posthole digger and dug a muddy hole in the yard for Barrett's basketball standard. On Sunday night, after playing miniature golf and Nintendo with the kids in the family room, Seymour fired up the barbecue and singed some catfish. Also in the rain.

"I'm a barbecuer. Barbecue everything," Seymour said. "But since I've been here, I haven't had much time for that, either. It's been pretty hectic."

Seymour talks a little homesick, but he has no regrets about transplanting his life, his family and political career to Washington. He also has precious little time for reflection. In 13 months, he'll face his first election test in the GOP primary against Rep. William Dannemeyer, R-Fullerton. Barring an upset in the primary, Seymour will then face former San Francisco Mayor Dianne Feinstein or another Democrat in the November 1992 election.

"I'm in a war on a short fuse," the former Marine said.

The Orange County Register

Sunday, May 5, 1991

During his first four months in office, Seymour says he has tried to live up to his pledge that he would "hit the ground running," establish his credibility with colleagues on Capitol Hill, and give California voters a reason to reelect him in 1992. Thrust into the political limelight at a time of national crisis, the war in the Persian Gulf, the former state senator says he has tried just as hard to avoid making mistakes.

Political analysts from both parties say Seymour has done a respectable job of emulating Wilson's low-key, moderate style, but doubt whether he has made much of an impression on California voters. It's hard to build a political base in California, they said, when you're 3,000 miles away Monday through Friday.

"Clearly, he's trying to become a junior Pete Wilson," said Kam Kuwata, Feinstein's campaign manager for the 1992 race. "That's obviously a successful model, because Wilson won three elections in less than 10 years. But at the same time, California voters want leaders in their elected officials, and Seymour has no definition, no identity."

"I know I'm the new kid on the block, and that I don't have much time to make my mark," Seymour said during a recent interview. "But I also know that in an environment like this, where the issues are so broad and so new, it would be very easy to step on a political land mine."

The first bomb was waiting for Seymour when he arrived in Washington. On Jan. 12 — two days after he was sworn into office — he cast his first Senate vote. It supported the war resolution against Iraq.

Next, Seymour waded into one California crisis after another — the drought, crop damages caused by an arctic freeze and, more recently, the Defense Department's decision to eliminate 11 military bases and 20,000 California-based jobs.

"My agenda changed as the daily crisis came out," Seymour said.

His first crisis was assembling a Washington staff from scratch. While serving in the California Senate, he had 13 employees. Now he's got 62, including 40 on Capitol Hill.

Seymour risked White House displeasure in late April when he supported legislation by Sen. Daniel Moynihan, D-NY, to cut Social Security payroll taxes. The measure failed, but Seymour said he voted for it because it would have put \$18 million into the pockets of California workers.

That vote illustrates what he describes as his "California first" strategy.

"I might have stepped on a mine with that vote, because this was a biggie for the White House," Seymour said. "But if I'm going to represent California first, it was the right thing to do."

Seymour says he is more than happy to leave the global issues to others while he treats the state like one giant congressional district. It amounts to an open-door policy for 30 million people.

"People know that I have every reason in the world to want to help them, so they're coming through the door at a pretty good rate, and I'm going to try to prove them right," Seymour said.

"Constituent service is good public policy and good politics," he said.

The point was reinforced recently when Merced County officials huddled with Seymour to develop a plan to save Castle Air Force Base, included on a Pentagon base-closure list released two weeks ago.

"A good way to become an instant hero in the San Joaquin Valley is to save Castle," Merced Supervisor Ann Klinger told Seymour.

"I have every incentive to do just that," Seymour replied.

Seymour has stumped the state almost every weekend since taking office to familiarize himself with local problems and people who want federal assistance. Local officials, including some Democrats,

PLAYS NINTENDO

WTFED AGAINST SOC. SECURITY



The Associated Press

Sen. John Seymour, left, is sworn in by Vice President Dan Quayle in a re-enactment Jan 10. His wife, Judy, center, children and friends watch.

say that Seymour's lobbying efforts with Defense Secretary Dick Cheney helped stave off the threatened closures of three military bases, including the Long Beach Naval Shipyard.

"I'm not taking all the credit, but those were priorities I went after," Seymour said.

Seymour also takes some credit for pushing drought- and crop-relief measures through Congress, persuading Agriculture Secretary Ed Madigan to tour the freeze-damaged fields in Central California, and getting the US Army Corps of Engineers to dig out Atascadero Creek in Santa Barbara to save 150 homes.

"Seymour's trying to build a constituency, not make big splashes," said Dixon Arnett, a Washington lobbyist and former California assemblyman, Reagan administration official, and legislative director for ex-Sen. Wilson. "He's made some good solid base hits, not home runs. But he must become more proactive, because he cannot go out to California every week and call a news conference to advertise himself without having some substance to back it up."

Through April, Seymour — who repeatedly describes the US Senate as the "big leagues" — has built the following line score:

He has called two formal news conferences, on drought relief and women's rights; introduced five bills under his own name, including two drought-relief measures and one to restore Upper Sacramento River fisheries; co-sponsored 58 bills that ranged from imposing the death penalty on drug kingpins to bestowing a gold medal on Gen. Colin Powell; and amassed a 91 percent voting-attendance record.

He also has taken one foreign trip, to Israel, and one committee-related trip, to tour the northwest Alaska oil fields that might be opened up for drilling.

"Seymour hasn't made a lot of mistakes," said Dary Sragow, Feinstein's campaign manager in 1990. "He's been reasonably visible and methodical, taking pages out of the Wilson book to avoid creating any big negatives. That's the most sensible thing to do."

Seymour stakes out his turf

Senator focuses efforts on local concerns

By Bert Robinson
Mercury News Washington Bureau

SAN JOSE MERCURY NEWS - APR. 22

WASHINGTON — As they sat in John Seymour's cramped Senate office last February, Alameda County lobbyists wooed their host with words no ambitious lawmaker could have resisted. We can save our naval air station if you help us, they later recalled telling him. It will be great politics for you.

That said, Seymour wangled a rare meeting with Defense Secretary Dick Cheney, in a suite in San Francisco's St. Francis Hotel where he recounted the air station's case. Then he sat back on April 12, the day Cheney announced a base-closing list that spared Alameda, and listened to the Bay Area's Democratic political leadership credit him — a Republican senator from Orange County, unknown to perhaps two-thirds of local residents.

Whether John Seymour actually saved the base or not, it was probably the finest moment of his short reign as California senator. It also encapsulated his approach to his new job: a pragmatic California-first strategy that eschews any attempt — at least at this stage — to generate a national image.

In 3½ months since Pete Wilson appointed him to the U.S. Senate, Seymour, an ebullient, 53-year-old millionaire developer and former state senator, has treated the largest state in the union as if it were one big congressional district. Got a problem? He will work on it. Got a group of people to meet? He will be there.

"First and foremost, Seymour wants to become a very aggressive and effective advocate for California's very special interests," said Larry Thomas, a former Wilson aide who is now a key Seymour adviser. "If he can do that, and not necessarily become a statesman or a founding father, then California voters will respond."

This parochial-and-proud-of-it strategy separates Seymour from a rookie senator such as Minnesota's Paul Wellstone, who immediately angled to become a player in national affairs. But it positions Seymour ever closer to a man who handled the job of California senator the same way — Wilson.

"It's absolutely clear what they're doing," said Kam Kuwata, recently hired as campaign manager for Seymour's likely Democratic opponent in the 1992 Senate race, Dianne Feinstein. "They're going to try to make him imitation Wilson."

Seymour's enthusiastic energy

The fit will never be perfect. Though both men are self-described workaholics, the styles diverge. While Wilson exudes determination and calm, Seymour is so enthusiastic about his job that he is almost boyish. The effect is enhanced by his tendency to punctuate sentences with the words "gosh" and "doggone," and his habit of sporting a Mickey Mouse watch.

But Seymour's pragmatic, California-first focus clearly mirrors that of Wilson, who rarely cut a national figure as senator. On issues, Seymour is striving to occupy the ground Wilson staked out for him at the time of his surprise appointment in early January: the new breed of California Republican, fiscally conservative, socially moderate, environmentally aware.

On a 'vertical learning curve'

The effort does not come without strain. Seymour, who once favored offshore oil drilling, now vows to fight to his last breath the Bush administration's proposed leasing of a mere 87 tracts off the coast of Santa Barbara. Other issues tax Seymour simply because they are new to him, and force him to ascend what he calls "a vertical learning curve."

Nowhere was the challenge greater than with the vote to use military force in Iraq. The Senate's debate began just minutes after Seymour was sworn into his new job. Though he was spared the agony of a difficult decision — the correct position for a California Republican was never in doubt — Seymour had to master enough facts to deliver a floor speech on the issue, and enough political nuance to handle the inevitable questions back home. By most accounts he did so skillfully.

Tending the constituencies

That debate aside, Seymour has spent most of his time tending to California constituencies he will need in his campaign. He jetted to Israel during his first month on the job, then returned to tell California chapters of the influential American-Israeli Public Affairs Committee that he would oppose selling "offensive weapons" to Saudi Ara-



AP File Photograph

Saving naval base was probably John Seymour's finest senatorial moment.

bia. He brought newly appointed Agriculture Secretary Ed Madigan to the Central Valley to examine drought and freeze-ravaged fields, then pushed for federal relief funds for farmers.

In a news conference to introduce that bill, Seymour also displayed a tendency to overreach that could nag him. He gleefully blasted the competing drought legislation of liberal Rep. George Miller, D-Pleasant Hill, apparently unaware that the provisions he excoriated were not part of Miller's bill. Wilson might have been pleased by Seymour's ardor, however; he feuded with Miller for most of his years in Washington.

Even Seymour's work on behalf of Alameda Naval Air Station was a page from the Wilson manual. As a senator whose political base lay in Southern California, Wilson had used Alameda as an opening in the north, in part because of his friendship with longtime Alameda Mayor Chuck Corica. Corica knew the appropriate Seymour aide, who had earlier been a Wilson aide, to call when rumors circulated that the local military base was in danger.

Alameda credits Seymour

But Seymour made the issue his own. Employees at Alameda Naval Air Station say they have been told that, while the Navy had decided to leave open portions of the air station complex prior to Seymour's meeting with Cheney, the air station's 4,000-employee depot was slated for shutdown until the senator intervened.

"I recognized an opportunity with Alameda where maybe, just maybe, I could make the difference," Seymour said when asked why he chose it over other threatened California bases. "I'm new here and I want to stay here and I need to show I can serve my constituents. I will be a California-first senator for as far in the future as I can see."

Sen. Seymour keeps shoulder to the wheel

San Diego Union
Apr. 28, 1991

He'll run for election now, relax later

By Mark Z. Barabak
Copley News Service

WASHINGTON — When the Grid-iron Club put on its annual dinner last month, Washington's high and mighty gathered in a huge ballroom, resplendent in white tie, for a night of silly skits and political satire.

President Bush was there, along with members of his Cabinet and the Supreme Court, foreign ambassadors and media potentates from around the world. Gov. Wilson flew in from Sacramento, and his top aide, Bob White, came along to hobnob.

Absent from the affair, although probably few noticed, was John Seymour, the man Wilson named in January to replace him in the U.S. Senate.

Seymour declined several invitations to attend, spending that Saturday instead on the California coast, inspecting a flood-control project in Santa Barbara and meeting with water officials in Ventura.

While the visit was hardly glamorous, Seymour considered it time well spent.

Running frantically for election to the Senate in his own right, the Anaheim Republican is convinced the road to political success runs straight through California, with little time for detours into national or international affairs — or even socializing or sightseeing around Washington.

"Getting the job done at home, California first," he said. "That's my strategy."

He recalls that as he was driving through Washington recently, his wife pointed out "some fountain out there" and asked if he had seen it. No, Seymour replied, and his wife

told him: "You really ought to take time out to enjoy this."

"I'll do that after I'm elected," he told her.

A little over 100 days after being plucked from relative obscurity as a state senator and being promoted to "the big leagues," as he calls it, Seymour has compiled a line score that can be summed up this way: no runs, a few hits, no major errors.

"He didn't hit the ground running," said one lobbyist who has met with Seymour on California issues several times already, "but to use another analogy, he has kept his head above water. And I think he's doing increasingly well."

After a slow start and some confusion in building his staff, Seymour is credited with assembling a solid team consisting of Sacramento loyalists in several key slots, some Wilson carry-overs and a sprinkling of old Washington hands.

While conceding he still has "a lot to learn" on issues — he fouled up his first major news conference on drought legislation — Seymour is widely praised by lobbyists, committee staffers and other Capitol Hill observers for his diligence, accessibility and appetite for information.

A staff member of the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee cited a recent trip Seymour,

the junior member of the committee, took to Alaska to see the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, the subject of years of to-drill-or-not-to-drill debate.

"To his credit, he said before he made up his mind he wanted to go up there and see it firsthand," the staffer said. "That's a lot more than a lot of members have done on that issue."

After a daylong tour, Seymour remains undecided.

Some have been pleasantly surprised by his open-minded approach to issues since he came to Washington, although he has demonstrated flexibility before — expediency, his critics call it — by switching to support abortion rights and oppose offshore oil drilling.

Lucy Blake, head of the California League of Conservation Voters, said environmentalists have "heard some very positive things" from Seymour, who while he was in the state Senate regularly ranked among the lawmakers least supportive of environmental causes.

She cited his criticism of Mr. Bush's national energy policy, with its emphasis on production over conservation, and his professed desire to reach a compromise with Sen. Alan Cranston, D-Calif., on long-stalled legislation to protect more of the California desert.

Continued on next page

Senator: Seymour keeps shoulder to the wheel, will relax later

"At this point, the signs are positive," Blake said.

Hard work and good intentions only go so far, however.

In a town where clout counts for everything, Seymour possesses little of it. In a business where people are validated by the results of their last election, Seymour remains untested.

"He's kind of a lame duck until he proves otherwise, just because of the fact that he's a short-termmer and he's appointed," said Lyn Nofziger, a longtime student of California politics who served as White House political adviser under Ronald Reagan. "That's not to denigrate him in any way — it's not the man, it's the position he's in."

Because he was appointed to fill Wilson's seat when the governor resigned to take office in January, Seymour must stand for a "confirmation" election next year. If he wins, he intends to seek re-election in 1994 to a full six-year term.

Seymour has already drawn a challenger in the 1992 GOP primary: arch-conservative Rep. William Dannemeyer of Fullerton. Dianne Feinstein, the former San Francisco mayor and unsuccessful Democratic candidate for governor last year, has indicated she plans to seek the Seymour seat.

In the meantime, like any smart politician, Seymour has tried to turn necessity into a virtue.

If he can't be a player on issues of war and peace, Seymour is determined to punch his return ticket to Washington by performing hundreds, if not thousands, of small deeds at home. (He does, however, hope to get some mileage out of his vote supporting the use of force in the Persian Gulf.)

Whether it's helping a San Diego shipyard land a government contract, expediting a permit to control flooding in Santa Barbara or meeting

with Defense Secretary Dick Cheney to plead the case for the Alameda Naval Air Station — which was spared in the recent round of base closings — Seymour believes getting elected means "getting the job done at home."

"That's good public policy," Seymour said, "and it's good politics."

It's also a pretty good imitation of the guy he succeeded.

"Basically it's the Pete Wilson recipe," said political analyst Charles Cook. "You offend as few people as absolutely possible, try to aim for the 50-yard line — or just over the 50-yard line — ideologically, and you limit your exposure to attack. It's not out of 'Profiles in Courage,' but it's not a bad way to get re-elected."

It may be tempting for Seymour to try to replicate the successful formula used by his immediate predecessor. After all, Wilson wore his parochialism like a badge of honor in the Senate, and California voters were obviously pleased, even if the pundits were dubious.

"I remember very vividly the criticism during his first year," said Otto Bos, a Wilson aide in both Washington and Sacramento. "Wilson was a nobody, he was anonymous, he wasn't hungry enough. They tried to drape that around his neck in 1988."

Wilson easily won re-election to the Senate that year, and a few

months later launched his successful campaign for governor.

Political analysts agree that Seymour faces inherent risks by standing too long in Wilson's shadow. For one, the governor faces a monumental budget crisis in Sacramento.

"By next year, Wilson's stature may not be that favorable," said Mervin Field, director of the California Poll.

Moreover, whatever the solution to the budget mess, even Seymour supporters acknowledge he bears a special burden to distinguish himself from his political patron.

"He has to establish his own unique place and faces two hurdles," said Bob Nelson, a longtime Seymour adviser who is overseeing his election campaign. "One, becoming better known. Two, making people feel that had there been an election, he would have been elected on his own."

If his ambitions seem modest and his agenda humble by Washington standards, Seymour figures the votes in the 1992 election won't come from inside the Washington Beltway.

"This is an intellectual candy store, and I would just love to wallow around in it," Seymour said of the Senate. "But I don't have that luxury. The time is just too short, and I've just got too many to serve and too much to learn."

DESERT STORM

"The intense, conscience-tinged debate that preceded the war powers vote Jan. 12 is already being called the single most important one that current members will cast....Indeed, Seymour's maiden speech on the Senate floor and his first vote may turn out to be the most important of his political career: He supported the authorization for the U.S. forces to go to war...."

Joe Scott, Political Columnist, February 4, 1991

"In a meeting Friday with Marine Corps families whose loved ones are stationed in the Persian Gulf, U.S. Sen. John Seymour (R-Calif.) said he was encouraged by their spirit and discussed concerns ranging from child-care problems to skyrocketing telephone bills...."

Los Angeles Times, January 26, 1991

"U.S. Senator-designate John Seymour, in his first day on Capitol Hill, yesterday plunged into a study of the Persian Gulf crisis in preparation for a Senate debate scheduled to begin today. The former California state senator from Anaheim is scheduled to be sworn in today to fill Gov. Wilson's seat until the next general election, in 1992."

San Diego Union, January 10, 1991

"John Seymour, California's Republican senator, who took his oath of office only a week ago, said he told his 8-year-old son he was scared and concerned....because there are going to be sons and daughters of Americans who are going to be lost. 'It's a very somber time,' Seymour said. 'Did I think twice (about voting to authorize the use of force)? Yes. But it was the right decision.'"

Sacramento Bee, January 17, 1991

On the war effort, Senator Seymour not only stood behind the Commander in Chief by cosponsoring and voting for the resolution to authorize the President to commit U.S. military forces to liberate Kuwait; he also pushed numerous legislative initiatives to help U.S. armed forces, including:

** S221, to create a special savings program for Armed Services personnel;

** S203, to extend the tax filing deadline for all military personnel deployed in the Persian Gulf and increasing the monthly income tax exemption;

** S205, to authorize retired members of the armed forces recalled to duty for Desert Storm to serve in the highest grade previously held while on active duty;

** S199, to exclude Desert Storm military pay from gross income for tax purposes.

Seymour met with families of Desert Storm personnel and was briefed by base commanders on Desert Storm operations at San Diego Naval Air Station, El Toro Marine Corps Air Station, Miramar Naval Air Station, the Long Beach Naval Shipyard, the Fresno Air National Guard Base and McClellan Air Force Base.

Seymour also recognized civilian contributions to the war at key California defense plants including the C-17 plant in Long Beach, the Tomahawk Cruise Missile plant in San Diego, and the San Jose plant manufacturing the M-113 Armored Personnel Carrier and the Bradley Fighting Vehicle.

In addition, Seymour toured plants run by defense subcontractors like Irvine's Kaiser Electroprecision, which builds components for the Patriot missile system, and Trimble Navigation, which manufactures a hand-held satellite navigation system at its plant in Sunnyvale.

Evening Tribune
Jan. 10, 1991

Seymour backs Bush policy in gulf

By Benjamin S. ...
Copley News Service

WASHINGTON — Newly appointed Sen. John Seymour, moments after taking the oath of office, said he supports President Bush's initiatives on the Persian Gulf crisis and will vote for a resolution giving Bush authority to commit U.S. military forces against Iraq.

"I absolutely don't want to see war," said the California Republican. "I want to see our troops come home safe and sound."

But, he said, Bush needs congressional backing for the United States to head the multinational military coalition arrayed against Iraq, which invaded neighboring Kuwait Aug. 2.

Seymour was scheduled to meet later in the day with Bush at the White House.

The oath of office was administered by Vice President Dan Quayle

in the Senate chamber. Seymour held a small 1861 "soldier's Bible" that was carried by a Union soldier from his native state of Pennsylvania. It was obtained from the Library of Congress.

An aide said he chose that particular Bible to show solidarity with the troops in the Persian Gulf.

A second ceremony in the ornate original Senate chamber in the Capitol was delayed as the Senate immediately launched into a debate on the gulf resolutions, keeping Quayle pinned in the Senate president's chair.

Surrounded by 50 family members and friends, Seymour and Quayle reenacted the oath-taking for cameras, which are not allowed on the Senate floor.

"I have very mixed emotions," Seymour told reporters afterward.

"This very happy day in my life is offset by the (gulf) crisis."

His wife, Judy, said she was "overwhelmed, very excited" by the event.

Seymour planned to spend the rest of the day listening to debate on the gulf crisis and continuing his staff briefings on the issue.

"He's the first to admit he's no foreign policy expert," said Robert Nelson, a top transition aide, "and this is possibly the most important foreign policy vote he'll ever cast."

Another aide, who declined to be identified, said Seymour likely will be assigned to the Energy and Commerce Committee and the Agriculture Committee. The senator will learn today or tomorrow, the aide added.

Seymour's first choice — Armed Services — has no vacancies.

Seymour supports Bush's gulf stance

By MICHAEL DOYLE
Bee Washington bureau

WASHINGTON — Amid unusually somber circumstances, Republican John Seymour took the oath Thursday as California's newest U.S. senator and plunged immediately into questions of life and death, war and peace.

Seymour, appointed by Gov. Wilson to finish the remaining two years of Wilson's term in the Senate, took his oath while holding a pocket-size Bible that had once been carried by a Union soldier during the Civil War. Seymour had borrowed the Bible from the Library of Congress in what his aides say was an expression of support for the troops in the Persian Gulf.

During a subsequent five-minute meeting at the White House with President Bush, and in a brief session with reporters, Seymour stressed his unambiguous support for Bush's gulf policies. His first votes as a senator will be to approve a congressional authorization for war, as a means of ejecting Iraq from Kuwait.

"It is time to forget partisan politics, Republican and Democrat, liberal and conservative," Seymour said. "It is time to unite behind the president of the United States."

Seymour, 53, admitted to "mixed emotions" on the day of his swearing in as one of California's two U.S. senators.

"Probably it is the happiest day in my life, but at the same time I am very somber and serious," Seymour

told reporters. "It's taken a lot of the luster away."

The emotional tug-of-war was apparent even as Vice President Dan Quayle administered the oath to Seymour shortly after 10 a.m. in the Senate chambers. The two men were supposed to move immediately to the ornate Old Senate Chambers, where they would restage the ceremony for the sake of photographers and beaming family members. The ceremony was delayed as Quayle remained behind to preside over the start of formal debate on a Persian Gulf war authorization.

A former mayor of Anaheim, who made himself a millionaire in the Southern California real-estate market before age 30, Seymour faces immediate if not overwhelming challenges of his own. He must boost his name recognition statewide, more effectively than he did last year when he failed in his bid for the Republican nomination for lieutenant governor.

He must also begin raising money for a re-election bid in 1992. Based on past state senate races, he will have to collect at least \$15,000 a day for the next two years.

The probable focus of some of Seymour's fund-raising efforts, as well as his initial legislative efforts, will become clear once he wins his committee assignments. The assignments aren't final yet, but Seymour spokeswoman Lynda Schuler said she expected him to win Wilson's old seat on the Senate Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry Committee, plus a slot on the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee.

Seymour backs Bush's Gulf policy

Wilson's successor also remains pro-choice

Associated Press

ANAHEIM — John Seymour, named to succeed Gov.-elect Pete Wilson in the U.S. Senate, declared support for President George Bush's Persian Gulf policy Thursday as he defended his conservative credentials.

The little-known state senator, a millionaire real estate developer who rose from political obscurity when Wilson chose him Wednesday, said his pro-abortion rights stand was not a betrayal of Republican Party philosophy.

"I am conservative," Seymour told a news conference, citing positions on defense, law and order and the death penalty. "I can only conjecture that what those few are referring to is the defense of a woman's right to chose."

Appearing at a hometown reception a day after his leap into national politics, he strongly backed Bush's military buildup in the Persian Gulf to force Iraq to withdraw from neighboring Kuwait.

"I'm right on with President Bush," he told a news conference.

Seymour said he would agree to a war declaration if Bush sought Congress' consent, adding, "We cannot back off one half-inch from our demand."

Seymour, 53, who was an Anaheim councilman and mayor before being elected to the California Senate in 1982, was warmly received at the Marriott Hotel event by Orange County politicians and members of the business community.

Commenting on his overnight fame, Seymour related a telephone call from a sister living on the East Coast.

"John, you won't believe it. You were on the front page of the New York Times and the Washington Post," she told him Thursday morning.

He told the group he believes Orange County epitomizes the California dream of creating a better life and passing it on to future generations.

His goal as a senator is to keep the dream alive and "spread that opportunity to every Californian," he said.

In the news conference, Seymour said he had yet to establish legislative priorities but would quickly pull together an agenda.

Seymour, characterized by Wilson as "philosophically compatible," said he agreed with Wilson on many issues but was not a clone.

He said he considered himself an environmentalist.

The controversy between environmentalists and loggers over saving old forests as a habitat for the endangered spotted owl in Northern California was an instance in which jobs had to be given weight as extremely important.

On the nation's economy, Seymour said his business experience led him to believe that certain measures could be effective in dealing with the recession, particularly a cut in the capital gains tax.

He said he would urge Bush to put the issue back on the table.

Continued reductions in interest rates by the Federal Reserve System would stimulate the private sector, he said.

Seymour will have little time to settle into his new job. He must run next year in an election to determine who will serve out the remaining two years of Wilson's six-year Senate term. If he wins he'll soon have to begin campaigning for the 1994 election to fill a full six-year term.

DEFENSE AND FOREIGN RELATIONS

"Employees at Alameda Naval Air Station say they have been told that...prior to Seymour's meeting with Cheney, the air station's 4,000-employee depot was slated for shutdown until the senator intervened."

San Jose Mercury News, April 22, 1991

"...thank-you for all the hard work done by your office in keeping the Long Beach Shipyard open. Without your leadership and dedication the shipyard would not have remained open and the 4100 people would be without a job."

Federal Employees Metal Trades Council, Long Beach AFL-CIO
April 17, 1991

"California's new U.S. Senator toured Douglas Aircraft Co.'s C-17 plant in Long Beach on Friday and promised to 'bring home the bacon' for the state's beleaguered aerospace industry."

San Pedro News Pilot, January 26, 1991

Sen. John Seymour, in his first visit to McClellan Air Force Base, pledged Saturday after touring the high-tech repair facility that he will support efforts to keep it operating...[and] a proposal by Sacramento officials that calls for the Pentagon to establish a consolidated West Coast communications and electronics repair center at McClellan for all military branches."

Sacramento Bee, March 10, 1991

"Expect John Seymour, California's newly appointed U.S. senator, to join the ranks of Israel's staunchest supporters in Congress."

Orange County Jewish Heritage, January 11, 1991

America's quick and convincing victory in the Persian Gulf not only ended the war, but also demonstrated the proof that the path to peace lies in invincible strength. A firm believer in that doctrine, Senator Seymour has worked hard in behalf of California's military and defense interests, including:

- ** securing funding from the Appropriations Committee for completion of ship repair projects in San Diego that literally kept the doors of the National Steel and Shipbuilding Company (NAASCO) open;

- ** stopping attempts to shut down Alameda Naval Air Station by writing and meeting with Defense Secretary Dick Cheney, and working with local officials at the Alameda facility;

- ** facilitating an agreement to release \$10 million in funding to assist dislocated workers in the aerospace and other California industries.

Seymour toured and met with officials from many defense contracting facilities in addition to those he visited as part of his Operation Desert Storm briefings, including Northrop's plant in Palmdale, home of the B-2 , and the Lockheed Space and Missile facility in Sunnyvale, where the space station is being designed.

Furthermore, Seymour moved immediately to establish himself on foreign relations, including:

- ** organizing a bipartisan Senate protest of the Soviet Union's occupation of Lithuania;

- ** travelling to Israel to meet with Israeli leaders including Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir and to tour the West Bank. Seymour also met with U.S. Patriot missile crews stationed in Israel to defend that nation against Iraqi SCUD missile attacks;

- ** introducing legislation to condemn human rights violations by the Vietnamese government.

Seymour praises B-2 work

By RONALD SHINKMAN
Staff Writer

PALMDALE — Sen. John Seymour praised the technology employed by the B-2 stealth



SEYMOUR

bombers Thursday, saying that the aircraft would carry the U.S. military arsenal "into the 21st century." The Republican junior senator, appointed to his seat in January by Gov. Pete Wilson, also pledged strong support in the Senate for B-2 funding during fiscal 1991 and expressed hope that Operation Desert Storm would soften stiff opposition in the House of Representatives against continuing the program.

Seymour's comments came at a brief press conference following a visit to Northrop's B-2 assembly facility at Air Force Plant 42 and a briefing by Northrop chairman Kent Kresa and Vice President of Manufacturing Frank Lippon.

"I thought the tours went well," said Tony Cantafio, Northrop's vice president in charge of communications. "The senator was interested in what we had to say."

"There were no surprises, but what I saw today crawling around the B-2s gave me a realization that this is truly 21st century stuff," Seymour said of his tour, which included examining a B-2 cockpit. "The employees are also excited, and they have an extra-positive attitude. I will go back to Washington with a renewed commitment to fight for the B-2."

The issue of keeping the B-2 program alive has been a contentious one in Congress, particularly in the House, where many members have balked at the B-

2's price tag of approximately \$860 million apiece. Last fall it voted 256-155 to halt funding for the B-2 program after 15 bombers were built, pitting it against the Bush Administration and Air Force's desire to build 75 B-2s.

A compromise bill was reached for \$4.1 billion: \$2.8 billion for procurement of two B-2s and the remainder to cover continuing development costs. The Bush Administration had requested \$5.1 billion for fiscal 1991.

The administration is asking for \$4.8 billion in funding for fiscal 1992, which includes the procurement of four bombers.

"I have confidence of strong support in the Senate," Seymour said, "but there are problems in the House in supporting this program. Hopefully, what happened in the Persian may change things slightly."

"One of the things that the Persian Gulf war taught us is the importance of a high-tech air strike," he continued. "The B-2 will allow us to expand our capabilities in that area ... This is an aircraft with an ability to do a number of jobs. It gives the best bang for the taxpayers' buck. We're now committed to a peacetime budget, and this program will prove itself as doing a better job for less."

After the Plant 42 visit, Seymour toured Northrop's Advanced Tactical Fighter facility in Hawthorne, and was given a demonstration of the flight simulator that led to the development of two Northrop ATF prototypes. Northrop is bidding for a \$63.5 billion Air Force contract to build 750 ATFs. The program rivals the size of the B-2 project, which employs 13,000 at Northrop alone.

Seymour said at the Plant 42 press conference that he hopes Northrop wins the ATF contract. Company officials have confirmed that the ATF would be built in Palmdale should the contract be secured. Northrop's competitor, Lockheed, would build the ATF in Georgia.

"If we're talking about the jobs, I'm standing in the state that I want to win," he said.

A decision will be made later this month, according to Air Force officials.

Seymour bats for Bay Area bases

Senator lobbies Dick Cheney to keep facilities open

By Charles C. Hardy
OF THE EXAMINER STAFF

OAKLAND — U.S. Sen. John Seymour, characterizing his six weeks on Capitol Hill as a time of crisis — from a war to a drought — said his top priority now is keeping the Navy from closing Bay Area installations.

Seymour, speaking to a group of East Bay politicians and business executives at the Chamber of Commerce headquarters, said if the decision to close bases is made on merit and not politics, he is confident that the Alameda Naval Air Station, Alameda Aviation Depot, Oakland Supply Center and Oakland Naval Hospital will remain open.

Seymour, a California Republican, met with Secretary of Defense Dick Cheney earlier Wednesday in San Francisco to lobby for the bases.

"He has to hear the economic argument," said Seymour. "I think those arguments are on our side. It's the right thing to do."

It is right, Seymour contends, because the local bases have a highly skilled work force in place to serve the Navy, because taxpayers have paid for an infrastructure that is already in place, and because it

would devastate the area and have a grave impact on the state if the Navy jobs were lost.

"I did not receive any firm commitment," Seymour said, "but we're going to be there raising our voices all the way."

Local officials and Seymour say that closing the four military installations would cost the Bay Area 44,000 jobs and up to \$1.6 billion in annual income. East Bay politicians and educators say the impact would be so great that unemployment rolls would swell, schools would close and police officers would be laid off. They also argue that because the Navy pays so much in utility costs, rates would rise if the facilities were closed.

On April 15, Cheney will present a closure list to a presidential commission. Seymour said Cheney assured him the list will be made "outside politics." The Bay Area's anti-military reputation — based partly on San Francisco's rejection of the Navy plan to use The City as home port of the USS Missouri and on large demonstrations against the gulf war — will be a concern nevertheless, Seymour said.

"It doesn't make my job any easier facing an anti-military political environment," Seymour said.

Politics still may come into play

when the presidential commission, which will review Cheney's list before making its recommendation to the president, gets involved, Seymour said. He is lobbying to get a Bay Area representative appointed to the commission.

Rumors are circulating that the Navy is considering closing only the Alameda Aviation Depot, but Retired Adm. Robert Toney said that approach would be a major mistake by his former employer.

"These facilities need to be looked at as a complex, not by themselves," said Toney, who is president and chief executive officer of the Oakland Chamber of Commerce. "It is a complex. It is not five or six military bases. ... Without a repair shop, it's like having a pie without its crust."

Sen. Seymour supports NAS in letter he'll give to Cheney

The politician who may be in the best position to influence Secretary of Defense Dick Cheney on his new base-closure hit list has written a letter to Cheney recommending that the Alameda Naval Aviation Depot remain open.

Republican Sen. John Seymour, who was appointed to replace Pete Wilson after Wilson was elected governor last November, will present Cheney with the letter today. Seymour asks Cheney for his "strong and consistent advocacy for the retention of the Alameda Naval Aviation Depot."

As a senator and a Republican, Seymour may wield the most influence in a Republican administration that is now deciding final base closure recommendations. Seymour's letter to Cheney is his first public effort to save one of the six Bay Area naval bases that were marked by Cheney last year for possible closure.

Proponents trying to save the bases in the heavily Democratic

Bay Area may have a new ally.

Seymour's letter describes the depot as one of only two aircraft-repair depots on the West Coast. It is critical to the Navy's aviation and guided



Seymour

missile capabilities, which no other U.S. installation has the technology to handle, the letter states.

Seymour also states, "The closure of Alameda (depot) would not constitute a bargain for taxpayers. Independent studies have revealed that the program transfer, environmental cleanup, and employee separation costs for Alameda could exceed \$450 million, a number roughly equivalent to the depot's annual operating budget."

— Christopher Hines

DROUGHT & FREEZE

"California's newly appointed senator, John Seymour, has come up with a better idea that deals directly with the drought."

Los Angeles Daily News, March 20, 1991

"California's new U.S. senator wants to change the law so federal water can be transferred to where it's needed most."

San Luis Obispo Telegram-Tribune, March 16, 1991

"Sen. John Seymour, R-Calif., sensibly proposes to allow the federal government to act as a water broker during droughts."

San Diego Union, March 25, 1991

"Republican John Seymour said....the state needs to enlist new technology to reclaim fresh water from the sea and to conserve the vast quantities of water used in California agricultural production. At the same time...he has drafted legislation to address the water crisis in the near term."

Los Angeles Times, March 15, 1991

"During the...trip, Seymour also conferred with Israeli officials about high-technology water conservation and desalinization programs that could be useful in California."

Orange County Register, March 6, 1991

Sen. John Seymour is making big strides....At Seymour's urging, President Bush declared a federal state of emergency...for 31 of California's counties whose crop losses, caused by the recent freeze in the state, skyrocketed to more than \$800 million."

Anaheim Bulletin, February 16, 1991

In late 1990 and early 1991, California faced twin natural disasters -- an Arctic freeze and entry into a fifth year of drought. Senator Seymour moved quickly to respond:

- ** touring freeze-damaged citrus fields on his first trip back to the state;

- ** bringing USDA Secretary Ed Madigan to California in early April to win his cooperation in alleviating the effects of the freeze and drought;

- ** making sure farmworker families would receive food stamps without threatening their status as newly legalized aliens;

- ** urging President Bush to expand the disaster designation to a "dire emergency" to provide direct relief to farmers;

- ** winning federal food aid and assistance for unemployed families unable to pay their rents and mortgages.

In early February, Seymour toured the state to gain input on comprehensive drought relief legislation. The product of that bill, Seymour's "Drought Relief Act," was introduced on March 20. Its provisions include:

- ** federal authority to implement emergency drought relief measures;

- ** cooperative administration of water supplies during drought emergencies;

- ** use of federal water project facilities to help store and deliver water for municipal, industrial, fish and wildlife and other purposes;

- ** federal authority to purchase water.

Seymour combats state's water problems

By Barbara Metzler
and Joan Radovich
The Press-Enterprise

RIVERSIDE

U.S. Sen. John Seymour, R-Calif., yesterday promoted his Drought Relief Act of 1991 as the only practical solution to the drought, saying any attempt to redistribute water rights in California will only exacerbate the water wars.

Environmental, urban and agricultural interests long have been at each other's throats over available water in California. But Seymour said during a news conference at Western Municipal Water District headquarters that his drought plan seeks not to redivide the water pie but to make that pie larger.

"What I'm looking for is for all of us to put down our war clubs" and work for a solution, he said.

Seymour's legislation would give the Secretary of Interior authority to establish a federal water bank to supply needy areas. Such a bank would not involve reassigning water rights, he said, calling such rights "as sacred as private property rights."

Seymour's legislation, however, is expected to be superseded by a measure by Rep. George E. Miller Jr., D-Martinez, acting chairman of the House Interior Committee. The bill was passed by the House of Representatives March 21.

Miller's legislation also would relax restrictions on use of federal

project water and establish a water bank, and it would permit the Interior Department to drill wells and fund construction projects at a cost of up to \$42 million.

Seymour's legislation authorizes expenditures of up to \$10 million, including money for loans to buy water.

After the Western news conference, Seymour spoke at a luncheon at the Victoria Club hosted by the Lincoln Club of Riverside County, a Republican organization. About 85 people attended.

Seymour said that Republicans, in the wake of the U.S. victory in the Middle East, are turning their attention to domestic issues. The former state senator from Anaheim said a three-pronged program was needed to "jump-start this economy."

He advocated pushing the Federal Reserve Board to lower interest rates to spur consumer spending; changing tax policies to encourage greater investment in business as well as savings; and removing bureaucratic hurdles from banking regulations.

The luncheon group applauded Seymour's support for a constitutional amendment mandating a balanced federal budget.

Seymour, as Gov. Wilson's appointed successor to the U.S. Senate, is on an election treadmill. He must face voters in 1992, and if successful, again in 1994 when the term normally expires. So far, Rep. William Dannemeyer, R-Fullerton, and former San Francisco Mayor Dianne Feinstein, a Democrat, have announced plans to challenge Seymour next year.



THE DROUGHT

Seymour will urge citrus aid

Fresno Bee
Jan. 27, 1991

By EMILY M. BERNSTEIN
Bee staff writer

U.S. Sen. John Seymour made his first official visit to the central San Joaquin Valley Saturday and viewed firsthand the devastating effect of the December freeze on the area's citrus crop.

Seymour, a former state senator from Orange County whom Gov. Wilson picked as his own successor in early January, met with members of the Fresno County Farm Bureau and local growers.

"I read about the devastation to the crops and the loss of jobs, but until you come here firsthand and cut a piece of fruit open, you don't really understand," he said during a visit to the Harlan Ranch near Clovis.

"Last year's great devastation was from the earthquake, and certainly there was substantial property damage," Seymour added. "But I think this loss is much greater ... There is no way to measure the loss to the 15,000-plus people who are unemployed and are going to remain unemployed."

Seymour said he planned to urge President Bush to declare the valley a federal disaster area when he returns to Washington Monday. Such a declaration is necessary for federal aid and loan relief programs to go into effect.

Although he is well-known in Sacramento and in his former home district, Seymour has low recognition in the rest of the state. Political analysts say he will need to improve his statewide profile in order to run for re-election next year.

The senator, who sported a Fresno State University Bulldogs jacket during his visit, said he planned to come the area often and to keep Wilson's old Fresno office open.

Besides the freeze, Seymour discussed longer-term issues such as the five-year drought. He called his visit "a speed-reading course on the problems of the San Joaquin Valley."

He said he was confident he would be successful in his lobbying effort on behalf of the area's growers despite the war in the Persian Gulf.

"I hope the Persian Gulf crisis is over soon, not only so we can bring our young men and women back home, but also so we can focus on the real economic concerns here and in the other parts of the valley," said Seymour, who voted to support Bush in the war effort.

Senator says we need new water sources

■ **DROUGHT:** *Just conserving the precious resource is not enough, he says*

JENNIFER WEBER/Times Advocate

RANCHO BERNARDO — Sen. John Seymour said Monday that he would support tax incentives and in some cases government funding to provide new ways of bringing water to California.

In his first visit as senator to North County, Seymour told about 200 people at the Conservative Order of Good Guys that while he supports water conservation, he was more interested in coming up with alternative water sources.

"We need to do a lot more than just accept 'smaller is better,' as some people would have us believe," he said.

The Orange County Republican said he was inspired by some of the technology he saw in a recent trip to Israel, including desalination and recycling water in hothouses.

Besides developing those systems in this country, Seymour said he would like to im-

port water from Colorado, Alaska and Oregon, and build more water storage in California.

Seymour did not say in his speech how Californians might finance his ideas, but said later that the federal government could offer tax incentives and in some cases could pay for the projects.

Seymour spent most of his time talking about his background and how Gov. Pete Wilson appointed him to Wilson's old seat in the U.S. Senate.

On the war in the Middle East, Seymour credited George Bush with the allied victory, even as the Soviet Union was trying to hammer out a peace plan.

"He never backed off one second, and thank God he did not," Seymour said.

In the aftermath of war, the United States has to protect Israel, America's "one true friend and ally" in the region, he said. A peace plan is possible, however, if Arab states recognize Israel's right to exist, the senator said.

He favors an agreement that would make the Golan Heights and the West Bank demilita-



Sen. John Seymour
Inspired by technology

rized zones. Israel would never agree to a plan, though, that would return land to the Palestinians, especially the PLO, Seymour said.

On the recession, the senator said the government has to "jump-start" the economy through lower interest rates, lower capital gains taxes and looser rules for banks. Regulators have gone too far and are hurting free enterprise with their zeal, Seymour said.

He also said first-time home buyers should be allowed to pull their savings out of IRA accounts and not pay taxes on the money.

THE ECONOMY

"As a new member of the Senate, Seymour said he would not support tax increases to pay for the nation's involvement in the war but would seek additional contributions from the allies to offset the cost....'Now is not the time to raise taxes,' Seymour said."

Los Angeles Times, January 26, 1991

"Sen. John Seymour flatly ruled out increasing levies at the federal level...."

Los Angeles Times, February 24, 1991

"Seymour said that...a three-pronged program was needed to 'jump-start this economy.' He advocated pushing the Federal Reserve Board to lower interest rates....[and] changing tax policies to encourage greater investment in business as well as savings...."

Riverside Press-Enterprise, March 29, 1991

"On the nation's economy, Seymour said his business experience led him to believe that certain measures could be effective in dealing with the recession, particularly a cut in the capital gains tax. He said he would urge Bush to put the issues back on the table. Continued reductions in interest rates by the Federal Reserve System would stimulate the private sector, he said."

Long Beach Press Telegram, January 4, 1991

"A reduction in capital gains taxes and negotiated free trade agreements are also elements in Seymour's plan to get the U.S. economy moving again."

San Mateo Times, April 5, 1991

As a leader on the State Senate Budget Committee, John Seymour helped George Deukmejian balance his annual budgets. He believes his most important task in Washington is reducing the federal deficit.

In 1991, Seymour has already received the endorsement of the Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association and the "Fiscal Watchdog Award" from the San Diego County Taxpayers Association for a record that includes sponsoring bills to:

- ** amend the Constitution to require a balanced budget;
- ** grant the President authority to veto individual "pork barrel" projects in appropriations packages;
- ** require a "supermajority" of 60 votes to raise federal taxes.

Furthermore, Seymour has joined in legislation to prevent Congress from borrowing from the Social Security Trust Fund without a supermajority of 60 votes. Protecting the Social Security Trust Fund from budget politics is also Seymour's goal in sponsoring legislation to take the fund "off-budget," insulating it from deficit reduction schemes.

Additionally, Seymour's business experience in the housing sector has convinced him of the economic importance of a thriving housing market.

Providing affordable housing is a key legislative goal of Seymour's, including cosponsoring these bills:

- ** to restore full deductibility of contributions to Individual Retirement Accounts and allow penalty-free withdrawals for first-time purchase of a home and for college expenses;
- ** to continue the low-income housing tax credit program;
- ** to continue the Mortgage Revenue Bond program.

CRIME AND DRUGS

"Declaring that street gangs are a national problem, U.S. Sen. John Seymour (R-Calif.) on Monday unveiled a sweeping anti-gang bill that would stiffen penalties...and earmark \$42 million for prevention and enforcement programs."

Los Angeles Times, May 7, 1991

"Sen. John Seymour toured Project Crackdown areas in San Jose on Saturday, promising to help local organizations keep drug dealers out of their neighborhoods."

San Jose Mercury News, May 5, 1991

"Advocating a drug-fighting platform of law enforcement, medical treatment and education, U.S. Sen. John Seymour made a pitch for the Bush administration's comprehensive crime bill."

Inland Valley Bulletin, March 29, 1991

"Seymour...was in town to brief local law enforcement officials on anti-crime legislation and to hear about drug and gang woes.....he is co-sponsoring a package of crime bills [including] a mandatory 10-year sentence for federal offenders who use semi-automatic weapons in drug trafficking and felonies."

San Bernardino Sun, March 29, 1991

"During his first week as a senator, Seymour made a point of sitting down with the attorney general to discuss judicial selection....Like Wilson -- and Presidents Reagan and Bush -- Seymour said he wants judges who will apply the law as written, not make law from the bench...."

San Francisco Daily Journal, April 8, 1991

Senator Seymour has already joined in sponsoring three major crime initiatives in the 102nd Congress. Crime, drugs and gangs are without question his first continuing priority.

He was among the first members of the Senate to join in sponsoring President Bush's comprehensive crime control bill to:

- ** expand the death penalty for drug offenses;
- ** improve federal evidence rules in sexual assault and child molestation cases, and;
- ** establish mandatory prison terms for using a firearm in commission of certain drug crimes.

Seymour was one of 14 original sponsors of the Women's Equal Opportunity Act to:

- ** toughen penalties for violent crimes against women;
- ** expand civil remedies for victims of on-the-job sexual harassment;
- ** double federal penalties for repeat sex offenders, and;
- ** establish stiffer penalties for drug dealers convicted of selling their wares to pregnant women.

He also sponsored with Pennsylvania Senator Arlen Specter the Anti-Gang Violence Act of 1991, to:

- ** stiffen penalties for using children to traffic drugs;
- ** enhance prosecution for career criminals, and;
- ** toughen penalties for possession of firearms by drug dealers.

Seymour announces grants for border drug battle

By Jim O'Connell
Staff Writer

Southern California law enforcement groups will receive \$7.5 million in federal grants to fight drug trafficking, especially along the border. Sen. John Seymour, R-Calif., announced Friday night.

About \$2.45 million will be used for a San Diego Narcotics Information Network, a computerized system designed to coordinate drug enforcement efforts among federal, state and local agencies.

Another \$4.5 million will be distributed between the U.S. Customs Service and the Immigration and Naturalization Service to enhance interdiction efforts along the border.

The grants are from the Office of the National Drug Control Policy under a program targeting "high-intensity drug-trafficking areas." The money will pay for the purchase of automatic sensors along the border and increased staffing of border checkpoint stations. Seymour said.

Seymour, who yesterday attended Oceanside's parade for Marines who served in the Persian Gulf, made the announcement before taking a helicopter tour of a 14-mile stretch of the border Friday night.

After the flight, Seymour pledged to try to increase the number of Bor-

der Patrol agents assigned to the San Diego region from the current 800 to 1,200.

He also said he will suggest that the United States make the cooperation of the Mexican government in drug-interdiction efforts a requirement of a new trade agreement between the two countries.

"It seems to me there is more they could do," Seymour said.

Money for the new San Diego Narcotics Information Network should be available within two weeks, and the system could be in place by July, said Eugene Stephens, regional coordinator of the Justice Department's Western States Information Network.

Stephens said the network is designed to provide coordination among local law enforcement agencies, funding for undercover drug-fighting efforts, analytical services for crime data and a computer data base and equipment.

San Diego agencies "do not have a real good system" of computerized crime information, Stephens said.

Ron D'Ulisse, a spokesman for the Drug Enforcement Administration, which helps coordinate the Integrated Narcotics Task Force, said the information system used by police agencies is already among the best in the country.

"We feel we have an excellent information system," D'Ulisse said. "Maybe there's a need I'm not aware of."

Seymour set to introduce anti-gang bill

LoriAnn Bashoda
Anaheim Bulletin

ANAHEIM — Sen. John Seymour told Orange County law enforcement officials Monday that they are better organized to fight gang violence than any of the other communities he has visited in recent weeks.

The former Anaheim mayor has spent the past few weeks meeting with law enforcement officials throughout the state to learn more about gangs and what's being done to stop them.

Orange County was his last stop.

Upon returning to Washington, D.C., today, Seymour and fellow Republican Sen. Arlen Specter of Pennsylvania will introduce an anti-gang bill.

If passed by Congress, the act would create a 180-man federal anti-gang unit to work with local and state law enforcement agencies.

It would also set up an asset forfeiture fund to support the unit, establish a \$5 million grant fund for local anti-gang task forces and set up a national commission on gang prevention.

"We don't have all the answers back in Washington when it

comes to gang violence," Seymour said. "You have the answers. So I need your advice."

"You're on the cutting edge."

During 1990, more than 4,000 youths who were booked into the county's juvenile detention hall were confirmed gang members, Anaheim Police Chief Joseph Molloy said.

Theft is the No. 1 crime committed by juvenile street gangs, but other crimes are increasing.

Last year, juvenile gang members in Orange County were arrested for 23 murders, 16 attempted homicides, 130 robberies, 126 burglaries, 141 auto thefts and 115 weapons violations.

Police estimate Orange County is home to more than 12,000 gang members.

"And gang-related activity continues to climb," Molloy said. "We need to coordinate the resources of all law enforcement agencies in the county and interact with the community. The bottom line is, folks, we can't do it alone."

Santa Ana Police Chief Paul Walters blames the increase in gang activity on the change in culture and the media's "glamorizing of gangs."

"You succeeded in making a cult hero out of Chaka," he said. "It's time for the media to start working with us instead of against us."

Chaka is the teenager who has spent time in jail for scribbling his signature on thousands of places across the state.

Molloy said peer pressure is also to blame.

"Gang people actively solicit members and put a lot of pressure on these kids," he said. "We found that if we can get to kids early enough, we can steer them away from gangs."

All agreed that the key to reversing the trend is public-private partnerships.

"We don't want your money, we want your heart," said Dennis LaDucier, an assistant Orange County sheriff. "Because it's that heartfelt care that will help us win the war on drugs."

Seymour said the past few days of briefings with law enforcement agencies have convinced him to modify his bill. "For instance, I may decrease the number of federal agents and move some of that money into the grant fund for local task forces."

Senator lauds Oakland anti-drug plan

Seymour tours former crack house cleaned up under health-safety code violation program

By George Raine
OF THE EXAMINER STAFF

OAKLAND — Now that the authorities have seized the crack house at 8656 MacArthur Blvd., the building directly across the street from Castlemont High School, passers-by can believe the sign out front that reads: "Warning: Drug Free School Zone."

Sen. John Seymour was struck by the irony of the sign, what went on in the dilapidated building and the proximity of the school as he toured the abandoned building Saturday, but, importantly, he said, the seizure was one more victory.

The Republican appointed to fill the seat vacated by Gov. Wilson was inspecting the work of an Oakland campaign by which owners of properties that are used for drug activities are prosecuted under the state health code for maintaining a nuisance.

It is, officials says, an extraordinarily successful effort — called the Beat Health Unit by Oakland police — in which 487 drug houses have been closed down in Oakland neighborhoods.

Building owners cited

City or county prosecutors file civil actions in Alameda County Superior Court citing owners under the health and safety code that terms property used for keeping, serving, selling, manufacturing or giving away controlled substances a public nuisance. The law permits the state to eliminate such nuisances, but, officials said, most owners move quickly to eliminate drug sales and rehabilitate the property, feeling the threat of prosecution.



EXAMINER/KIM KOMENICH

Oakland police Sgt. Bob Crawford, right, shows Sen. John Seymour around a former crack house.

"It's one more mechanism to go after drug abuse," said Charles Vose, an assistant city attorney. The mechanism has been available since 1972 but has only been used in recent years, he said, prompted by overcrowding in criminal courts, he said.

"When you get a program that works, a program like this that is a good investment, and when a community cares enough the way this community cares, I'm going to help them," said Seymour.

In fact, he said he would. Seymour and Sen. Arlen Specter, R-Pa., are soon to introduce legislation they call the "Anti-Gang Violence Act," which would in part create a federal anti-gang unit, and he said Saturday that he may ex-

pand a portion of the proposal that would provide grants to community-based organizations.

A mission to make friends

Second, he said, he will promote the Oakland program in other large California cities.

Seymour, who must stand for election in 1992, is carving out a political profile as a California-first senator, and, by any measure, he was on a mission to make friends in Oakland Saturday.

The abandoned apartment complex had been acquired recently by the government's Resolution Trust Corp., as it has been in a bankruptcy proceeding, but bureaucratic foot-dragging reportedly was slowing the process in which Oakland was to acquire and re-

model it. Last week, Seymour's staff prodded the RTC to act.

"You have any more problems, I want to know about it," Seymour told Oakland Police Sgt. Bob Crawford, who heads the unit, as they walked through the trashed complex. Crawford beamed his approval.

Oakland's model program, developed in 1988, was created in cooperation with community leaders who were saddened by the human and property losses they saw around them. "We feel our community is just as important as the house on top of the hill," Joanna Lougin told Seymour, when he gathered with a group from East Oakland at the Eastmont Mall.

Said Seymour, "Hats off to the City of Oakland."

THE ENVIRONMENT

"Senate sources said that [Republican Senate Leader] Dole had arranged to place Seymour on the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee, a panel important to Californians because it deals with the Department of Interior, public lands, offshore oil drilling and a host of environmental issues."

Los Angeles Times, January 10, 1991

"Seymour...said he will work hard in the 102nd Congress to achieve a compromise on a California desert protection bill...."

Los Angeles Times, March 15, 1991

"California's new U.S. Senator, John Seymour....says he is eager to...try to craft a compromise [desert] measure....that balances the need for preservation against the interests of ranchers, miners and those who seek to use the desert for responsible recreation. If Seymour could serve as the catalyst, it would be a valuable contribution."

San Bernardino Sun, February 10, 1991

"Environmentalists and fishing, water and power interests, which are usually on opposing sides of California water issues, have all agreed to the provisions in Herger's and Seymour's bills....to launch a \$185 million, 10-year effort to restore depleted chinook salmon and steelhead trout populations...."

Sacramento Bee, March 22, 1991

"Sen. John Seymour...[said] he would fight a reported proposal to allow offshore oil drilling along the central California coast. Seymour was one of several California elected officials..who immediately rejected the drilling proposal."

Los Angeles Daily News, February 12, 1991

California's vast scenic beauty and abundant natural resources have made the Golden State a mecca for individuals seeking to live in a high quality economic and natural environment. Senator Seymour is dedicated to being a good steward of that environment.

In February, a renewed call by the federal government to open up 87 tracts off of Santa Barbara's coastline for oil exploration and drilling met with Seymour's firm opposition.

At an Energy Committee appearance by Secretary James Watkins, Seymour reiterated the Congressional delegation's opposition to drilling, and urged the Administration to keep its promise to protect environmentally sensitive areas from drilling.

Striking the appropriate balance between preservation of wilderness areas and prudent use of public lands is Seymour's goal in crafting legislation on wilderness lands, fish and wildlife, and wild and scenic rivers.

With Congress scheduled to take up the desert wilderness recommendations of the Bureau of Land Management this year, Seymour opened the door to discussions with proponents and opponents of a California Desert Wilderness bill to seek a balanced compromise. Other key environmental bills he's sponsored so far include:

- ** to restore habitat on the Upper Sacramento River for steelhead and salmon -- especially the winter chinook salmon, a threatened species;

- ** to preserve wilderness areas of the Merced River by designating it a federal Wild and Scenic River;

- ** to facilitate a major land exchange that will add valuable acreage to the Golden Gate National Recreation Area.

Senator against offshore oil, supports drought relief plan

By Scott Swanson
Staff Writer

SAN LUIS OBISPO — California's freshman United States senator said Friday that he will strongly oppose offshore oil development along the state's coast.

Senator John Seymour was in town to meet with area Republicans and to tout drought relief legislation he plans to introduce to Congress today (Wednesday). Seymour stopped for the Republican Party's Lincoln Day dinner at the Madonna Inn during a two-day swing through the state.

The senator met with water officials in Los Angeles, Bakersfield, Fresno, Santa Barbara, Oakland and Monterey on the trip, which ended with a break to go fishing at an undisclosed lake.

Seymour, an Anaheim Republican, was named by Gov. Pete Wilson to take over Wilson's vacant senate seat in January.

A former mayor of Anaheim, Seymour was elected to the state Senate in 1982, serving until his appointment to the U.S. Senate. He has said he intends to run for reelection in 1992.

Seymour said he considers the national energy policy unveiled by President Bush last month to be "a bit deficient." The president's plan supports oil exploration, new nuclear plant development and less reliance on foreign oil.

The senator said he will use his seat on the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources to oppose 87 oil lease-sales proposed for the Santa Maria Basin off the San Luis Obispo and Santa Barbara counties' coasts.

"I'm going to do what I can to see that these 87 tracts are not leased,"



John Seymour

Seymour said. "I intend to fight it very rigorously. The environmental risk is just not worth the petroleum potential."

Seymour said he supports re-

"The environmental risk is just not worth the petroleum potential."

— John Seymour

search and development of alternative fuels that will be cost efficient and marketable.

"I stop short of the notion that we mandate that a certain percentage of autos burn alternative fuels unless the consumer is prepared to buy them," he said. "We need to develop alternative fuels that are fuel effi-

cient and cost efficient. Then the market forces will take over."

The main topic at the senator's whistle stops Friday was his Drought Relief Act of 1991, a package of "no-strings-attached measures that would cut through red tape and allow the federal government to move water quickly to where it's needed," he said.

The package would give the secretary of the interior expanded powers to deal with drought problems, including pooling federal project water supplies with other supplies in a state and using federal facilities to store and deliver non-federal project water supplies for non-agricultural purposes.

Currently, federal facilities can only be used to store non-federal water for agricultural purposes.

Seymour's legislation would also authorize the federal government to purchase water from water purveyors, charge appropriate fees to pay for storage and delivery of water, defer payments for water in cases of financial hardship caused by the drought, establish a minimum \$10 million reclamation drought response fund, and make loans available for water purchase and storage.

Seymour said his plan is an attempt to avoid water wars between various jurisdictions and to "create a bigger pie, more water for everyone to share."

"I personally feel that water rights are as sacred as property rights," he said.

Other legislation Seymour has co-sponsored in recent weeks includes a bill that would allow withdrawal of IRA funds without penalty for first-time home purchases, college or medical expenses.

Seymour also has introduced legislation that would give parents more choice over which public schools their children could attend and provide treatment for pregnant women who are addicted to drugs.

Seymour seeks voice in desert bill

New senator willing to work with Cranston on compromise

By Rick Orlov
Daily News Staff Writer

U.S. Sen. John Seymour, looking to leave a legislative mark before standing for re-election next year, said he will seek to craft a compromise on a California desert-protection plan backed by Sen. Alan Cranston.

Cranston, D-Calif., has been trying to get a desert-protection plan through Congress for nearly four years, but has faced resistance from Republican Gov. Pete Wilson when he was a state senator and others who said the legislation was too restrictive.

Seymour — named by Wilson to the Senate post following Wilson's election as California governor — acknowledged in a recent interview that he is hungry for legislative accomplishments in order to stave off re-election challenges from Democrats and Republicans.

Two prominent conservatives, Reps. William Dannemeyer of Fullerton and Bob Dornan of Garden Grove, are considering a possible challenge to Seymour in 1992 and a number of Democrats, including former San Francisco Mayor Dianne Feinstein, are considering the race.

"Sure, I'd prefer to have a free run," Seymour said. "The first priority is to do the job of U.S. senator so I can demonstrate to

the people of California that Pete Wilson was right in his judgment.

"If I can prove to the voters I was the right choice and produce specific accomplishments, the people are going to be inclined to say, 'Gee, this guy's only been in there two years and has done this and that,'" Seymour said.

Seymour, who would have to stand for re-election again in 1994 when Wilson's term expires, said he is developing the outline of a compromise on Cranston's desert legislation.

"I'm hopeful I can work with (Cranston) to finish that up as soon as possible," Seymour said. "I'm waiting for him to get back to work so we can meet and discuss it."

Seymour's desire to reach agreement on the Desert Protection Act was welcomed by Cranston's staff.

"That's great news if he wants to sit down and come to some kind of agreement to get that bill through Congress," Cranston spokesman Murray Flanders said. "We were never able to make that kind of progress with Wilson."

"Wilson and his people never seemed to come to grips with what they wanted in the bill. We would say, 'How about this,' and

they would say, 'We'll get back to you.' But they never did."

Cranston's measure would cover 8.5 million acres of desert. It would set aside 4.5 million acres as protected wilderness off-limits to motorized vehicles and commercial use and would create three new national parks.

"We have never expected that large an area would make it through," Flanders said. "But, with Wilson, we could never get an idea of what he wanted to see."

The work on the legislation is part of the learning experience Seymour has gone through in his first month as a senator.

"This office always has been the ultimate goal of my political career," Seymour said. "And, all of a sudden there it is."

Seymour was not given much opportunity to savor his appointment because of the debate over U.S. involvement in the Persian Gulf and the outbreak of the war.

"It is a very somber environment," Seymour said. "It is a real test of your emotions. You go from all the emotional excitement and emotional fulfillment of being appointed to debating and voting on war. That is a real test of your emotions."

Seymour was one of the 52 senators who voted to support President Bush in taking military action necessary. He said he did not make up his mind to vote for the resolution until the night before the vote after meeting with Bush.

"That may be the most important vote I ever cast in my career. But, I'm comfortable with it. I feel very confident of my position."

Seymour said the debate preceded the vote also thrust him to center stage in the Senate.

"When you're sworn in on Thursday as one of 100, you're supposed to sit in a corner, keep your mouth shut and listen," Seymour said. "In a month or so you would make your maiden speech. I didn't expect to make my first speech on Saturday, two days later."

AN ADVOCATE FOR CALIFORNIA

WHAT CALIFORNIANS ARE SAYING ABOUT SEYMOUR...

"When Cornell Abrams asked state Sen. John Seymour...to visit his Central School eighth-grade class, he was optimistic....But when Seymour was appointed to the U.S. Senate...Cornell decided he would not hold Seymour to his promise. Seymour, however, proved he had every intention of keeping his word....Seymour spent about 45 minutes touring the school and addressing the students...Seymour went on to pledge that, 'If I can do one thing, it is to ensure a higher quality of education.'"

Peninsula Times Tribune, April 4, 1991

"As a retired teacher, I want to thank you for your efforts on our behalf. We are glad you are on the Senate Energy Committee and in a position to guard our Elk Hills project for the California Retired Teachers."

constituent letter, Mission Viejo, March 23, 1991

"San Bernardino has gained a valuable ally in its effort to fight plans to place a federal prison at soon-to-be-closed Norton Air Force Base. U.S. Sen. John Seymour...has vowed to join with local officials in the exchange....as Seymour said, 'There can be a much better economic use of that Air Force base.' Seymour can be a welcome and significant asset in getting that message across...."

San Bernardino Sun, March 30, 1991

"We wish to express our sincere appreciation for your recent efforts and support....Without this funding transfer...1,000 of our jobs would have been lost."

Richard H. Vortmann, President
National Steel and Shipbuilding Company, April 17, 1991

"McSwain School officials hope proposed federal legislation will help them get the land they need to build a new school....senators Alan Cranston, and John Seymour introduced bills...to give Merced County the authority to turn 15 acres of land over to the McSwain Union School District."

Merced Sun-Star, March 7, 1991

"Sen. John Seymour paid a quick visit to Goleta Saturday to view flood-control work under way in Atascadero Creek under a federal permit he helped secure. County officials had been frustrated for weeks in trying to get a permit from that federal agency to do the work, until Seymour intervened March 15, [County Supervisor] Tom Rogers said. 'I really think Sen. Seymour made the difference,' he said."

Santa Barbara News Press, March 24, 1991

"You were very instrumental in eliminating the road block that was delaying the start of repairs to Highway 1 near Stinson Beach. Thank you so much for your invaluable assistance."

Marin Co. Supervisor Bob Roumiguere, April 2, 1991

"Demolition of the quake-battered Embarcadero Freeway is expected to begin within three weeks now that federal transportation officials have approved a \$58.5 million grant for the project. The new promise of funds from the federal Department of Transportation [was] revealed Wednesday by U.S. Sen. John Seymour..."

San Francisco Examiner, February 7, 1991

"On behalf of the City Council, I would like to thank you and your office for such tremendous assistance...thanks for continuing to be an excellent representative and good friend to Buena Park."

*Mayor Don R. Griffith, City of Buena Park
March 19, 1991*

"We just received notification...that our District would receive its full entitlement funding....Please accept our appreciation for your assistance on behalf of the District to waive the detail of the metered postmark and to insure that our District receives its full funding. Your efforts are greatly appreciated and will benefit the students in the District."

James I. Justeson, Superintendent
Lemon Grove School District, April 10, 1991

"On behalf of the 117 members of the American Film Marketing Association, I want to thank you for lending your support to the recent communication to Ambassador Carla Hills urging aggressive implementation of the special 301 provisions of the 1988 Trade Act."

Jonas Rosenfield, President
American Film Marketing Association, April 19, 1991

"I am...writing to accomplish several things but most of all to thank you personally for your assistance in dealing with this unfortunate dilemma the Social Security Administration here...has caused me to be in the middle of. Your letter has given me the support I would expect from a Senator with your known accomplishments in dealing with problems of this nature. It has accomplished the Social Security Administration to add to my monthly financial needs the amount of \$100.00. I sincerely appreciate your support...."

constituent letter, Fresno, April 19, 1991