



Campaign Briefing

TODAY:

- CALL 800-452-2080 -
CAMPAIGN CONFERENCE
AT 11:20

ISSUE 87

Thursday, June 11, 1992

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HEADLINES

Retail sales advanced 0.2% in May; Inflation rose 0.4%

TODAY'S SCHEDULE

President Bush travels to Panama: meets with Panamanian President Guillermo Endara; leaves Panama en route to Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

Vice President Quayle addresses National Right to Life Convention.

11:30am: Bush/Quayle Campaign Briefing Telephone Conference

NEWS IN BRIEF

MALEK, BOND TALK TO SUPPORTERS NATIONWIDE

Republican National Committee Chairman Rich Bond and Bush/Quayle '92 Campaign Manager Fred Malek will hold a Campaign Briefing Telephone Conference today at 11:30 a.m. EDT. If you would like to participate, please call (800) 452-2080 between 11:15 and 11:20. Punch access number 1992 on any touch tone phone. (See attachment, Page 3)

CLINTON AND HILL DEMOCRATS LEAD PUSH TO KILL BBA

To no one's surprise, Clinton has joined the Democratic House leadership in opposing the Balanced Budget Amendment being voted on today. According to the New York Times, Clinton said he would *"oppose a Balanced Budget Amendment proposal that is now before Congress because it would place too many restrictions on Government spending."* (New York Times, 6/11)

Bush Calls for BBA

PRESIDENT ASKS PUBLIC TO URGE HOUSE PASSAGE

"Encourage your congressmen to do the right thing — pass this Balanced Budget Amendment," President Bush asked Americans on Wednesday as the House prepared to vote Thursday on several BBA versions.

"We are treating our national debt like the old fellow who borrowed money to pay off his loans," Bush said in remarks sent via satellite to television stations across the nation. *"Inevitably someone at some time must foot the bill, and it is simply wrong to walk away from this mountain of debt and leave it to our kids."*

Bush has endorsed a BBA sponsored by Rep. Joseph Barton (R-Tex.) requiring a three-fifths vote of both houses of Congress to increase the national debt or to raise taxes. In his television remarks, Bush cited a poll indicating that 80 percent of Americans agree that *"government spending must be restrained and the budget balanced."*

"We can't wheel and deal the deficit away," Bush said. *"There's no easy answer that we can jot out on a blank sheet of paper to wipe out a deficit of that magnitude. A Balanced Budget Amendment is real action and it will work."*

In a letter to Barton on Tuesday, Bush said the BBA issue *"is not partisan, it is moral."* If the Barton proposal fails, he wrote, he supports a BBA sponsored by Rep. Charles Stenholm (D., Tex.) requiring a three-fifths vote of Congress to increase the national debt. (6/11)

Issues Brief: Balanced Budget Amendment

STOP "CREDIT CARD" GOVERNMENT; END RUNAWAY FEDERAL SPENDING

President Bush is fighting to end "credit card" government financing. He wants Congress to pass the Balanced Budget Amendment and send it to the states for ratification. The House votes on BBA today.

- The Federal Budget Act was enacted to restrain Congress' spending spree. Congress has waived it more than 500 times in the last 12 years alone — so it can keep right on spending.
- The federal government *"borrows an average of \$1 billion a day to feed its addiction to spending,"* said *The Chicago Tribune* on May 10. *The BBA, according to The Tribune, "seems to be the only way of wrenching the government out of its profligate ways."*

Congress has overspent 53 of the last 61 years. Spending cuts are the answer. Last week, President Bush signed \$8 billion in

budget rescissions, cutting waste and unnecessary programs Congress had approved for special interests. A Balanced Budget Amendment would make that job easier.

- Interest on the national debt will be \$315 billion in the next fiscal year, the largest single item in the budget. Of that, \$40 billion will go to foreign creditors.

There is only one ironclad guarantee to balancing the federal books — the BBA. Combined with President Bush's growth package and a line-item presidential veto, it would bring greater prosperity to Americans.

- Every dollar used to pay interest on the federal debt takes away a dollar that could be used for schools, roads and tax relief.
- *"A balanced-budget amendment will... protect important rights of an unrepresented group, the unborn generations that must bear the burden of the debts,"* wrote *George Will* in his April 30 syndicated column.

NEWS IN BRIEF continued**REPUBLICANS RALLY AROUND BALANCED BUDGET AMENDMENT**

"The patience of the American people has run out.... It's time to make government truly a servant of the people and force them to do what Americans do -- balance their checkbook and live within their means." FORMER PRESIDENT RONALD REAGAN (6/10)

"We've got the opportunity not only to pass a Balanced Budget Amendment but also to show this as a defining issue between Republicans and the President on one side and the Democratic leadership and rank and file Democrats on the other." SENATOR BOB KASTEN (R-WI) (6/10)

"It's a fundamental constitutional principle that we should be operating with a balanced budget." CONGRESSMAN ALEX McMILLAN (R-NC) (6/10)

"It's the only way that we're going to bring fiscal responsibility to our federal government.... Balancing the budget will give us the respectability and put us in a position where we can GET OUT OF HOCK!" GOVERNOR GEORGE VOINOVICH (R-OH) (6/10)

"The runaway national debt must be brought under control. If some action is not taken to stop deficit spending...generations to come will pay for this Congress' inability to act responsibly." SENATOR MITCH McCONNELL (R-KY) (6/10)

"President Bush's Balanced Budget Amendment...could go a long way in bringing about some financial sanity at the federal level." GOVERNOR JIM EDGAR (R-IL) (6/10)

"Passage of this amendment is probably the most important act...Washington can take to have a direct impact on the long-term viability and vitality of the nation's economy." GOVERNOR TOMMY THOMPSON (R-WI) (6/10)

"A constitutional amendment is the only way to compel the Congress to do its fiscal duty. Without... a constitutional mandate, Congress simply will not have the strength to resist excessive spending." GOVERNOR JAMES MARTIN (R-NC) (6/10)

"This measure will have a direct impact on the long-term vitality of our economy. Congress will cast no more important vote this session." GOVERNOR WILLIAM WELD (R-MA) (6/10)

PRESIDENT BUSH TO APPEAR ON CNN, 20/20

President Bush will be interviewed live Monday, June 15, at the White House for 30 minutes on CNN's "International Hour," starting at 3:00 p.m. EDT. The White House also announced that President and

Mrs. Bush will appear on "20/20" with Barbara Walters on Friday, June 26. (Washington Post, 6/11)

CLINTON ROCKS ON "MTV," ANSWERS CALLS ON CBS THIS MORNING

Bill Clinton will appear on the music video cable channel "MTV" Tuesday, June 16 in an hour-long question-and-answer forum. MTV will air "Facing the Future with Bill Clinton" at 10 p.m., EDT and PST. No report as to whether Clinton will bring his saxophone. Bill Clinton also will appear for a two-hour viewer call-in session on CBS This Morning on Monday, June 15. (AP, Washington Post, 6/11)

EDITORIAL

STOP CONGRESS' PORK FEST *"There is no issue so serious, no matter of such importance to the nation's future that Congress can't turn the whole thing into a pork fest. Whether it is Los Angeles or just the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, which just got a whopping increase in federal handouts from the Senate despite all the professed concern about the federal budget deficit, Congress has demonstrated beyond a reasonable doubt that it is wholly incapable of disciplining itself or the budget."* (Washington Times, 6/11)

PRICE OF BIODIVERSITY TREATY TOO HIGH

"President Bush may be all alone this week in refusing to sign an Earth Summit treaty aimed at protecting endangered wildlife species. He also happens to be right. The price demanded of the USA is too high, and the promise of meaningful results is too low. The treaty would:

- Deny the USA and other industrial nations control of the dollars they donate to conservation....
- Unwisely and unnecessarily force the emerging U.S. biotechnology industry - the undisputed world leader - to share confidential information and property rights with other countries.
- Lead to international regulation of the genetic-engineering industry, impeding process and endangering U.S. leadership in the field." (USA Today, 6/9)

BALANCED BUDGET AMENDMENT: Field Action Kit

In need of talking points, sample op-eds, sample letters to the editor and news clips regarding the Balanced Budget Amendment?

Call State Press Operations @ 202-336-7294, and we will send you the Balanced Budget Amendment Field Action Kit.

For draft news releases, news conference statements, letters to the editor, speeches, op-eds, and talking points, please call the STATE PRESS OPERATIONS DESK at 202/336-7294.

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