



Campaign Briefing

TODAY:

**PRESIDENT SPEAKS
TO GRADUATING
MIDSHIPMEN**

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Page 1 of 2

HEADLINES

- Bush wins Arkansas (87%), Kentucky (74%), Idaho (64%) primaries (AP)
- Durable goods orders up 1.4% in April, fourth consecutive monthly increase (ABC News)

TODAY'S SCHEDULE

President Bush delivers commencement address at U.S. Naval Academy in Maryland; attends Bush/Quayle dinner in Atlanta, Georgia.

Vice President Quayle delivers commencement address at U.S. Air Force Academy in Colorado; attends Victory '92 luncheon.

NEWS IN BRIEF

FIRST LADY URGES YOUNG PEOPLE TO WAIT FOR IDEAL FAMILY "I spend a lot of my time saying to young girls and young boys, 'Hold off. Wait. Get your education. Be responsible,'" First Lady Barbara Bush told reporters on Tuesday when asked about the Vice President's family values speech last week. Regarding the Murphy Brown example, Mrs. Bush said, "I hope this won't influence young men and women to think that having babies without the ideal family is the way to start." (CBS Evening News, 5/26, AP, 5/27)

(cont'd p.2)

The First Couple

PRESIDENT PRAISES FIRST LADY: SHE TEACHES THROUGH EXAMPLE

President Bush last night confided, "[S]omething Prime Minister [Felipe] Gonzalez of Spain told me. He said, 'Your wife is the most admired woman in the world.'"

Speaking by videotape at the Statesman's Dinner in Miami Beach honoring Mrs. Bush, the President said it was appropriate that such a dinner would be held to honor the First Lady: "Someone once said that 'a politician thinks of the next election; [but] a statesman thinks of the next generation.' That's Barbara Bush - in so many ways.

"...So I'm not surprised when so many other Americans look to her leadership," the President said. "She is waging a war against illiteracy - and she is determined to see that war won. She has shared her greatest gift - her love - with the tragic victims of AIDS. And through example, she teaches the meaning of family, faith, and friends."

Reflecting upon their lives together "in 30 different homes - from tiny apartments to the White House," the President stated his steadfast belief that "Home is wherever Barbara is."

Some view Mrs. Bush to be a follower of her husband. The President disagrees: "They got it wrong. In countless ways - I have followed Barbara." (5/27)

Tomorrow in Phoenix

PRESIDENT TO MEET WITH LEADERS OF VETERANS FOR BUSH-QUAYLE

The men and women who have fought America's wars to keep us free have always been important. A grateful nation has always provided for their care and for that of their loved ones.

- This year, for the fourth time in its 75-year history, the veterans life insurance program will pay more than \$1 billion in dividends to veterans holding active policies.
- The Department of Veterans Affairs provides \$30 billion annually in health care, education, compensation, pension and housing benefits and cemetery services to the nation's 26.6 million military veterans.

America's veterans embody our nation's highest ideals — service, valor, strength, and unity. They are truly America's heroes as much as those who answered the call to fight for America's independence.

- From George Washington to George Bush, 27 of the nation's 40 presidents served in the military.

- Almost half of all males 40 to 60 years of age are veterans. Nearly two-thirds of the voters in that group cast their ballots for George Bush in 1988.

To keep the peace, America must be prepared for war and determined to use force, if necessary, to protect freedom. The men and women who serve in the military deserve the best from us just as we demand the best from them. Our gratitude must be matched by our actions.

- Since taking office in January, 1989, President Bush has increased funds for veterans by \$3.5 billion, primarily for health care.
- A total of 70.1 million veterans and their dependents — 28 percent of the entire resident population of the United States — are eligible for veterans benefits.
- The Bush Administration resolved one of the most contentious veterans issues of all time when it decided that Vietnam War veterans who become ill from Agent Orange exposure will be medically treated and financially compensated.

NEWS IN BRIEF continued**NEW REFORMS PROMOTE BIOTECH PRODUCTS**

Vice President Quayle and Secretary of Health and Human Services Louis Sullivan announced on Tuesday a new set of reforms to speed up and simplify the process of bringing better biotech agricultural products to the market. *"As a result of these reforms, the consumer will enjoy better, healthier food products at lower prices,"* said the vice president. Quayle said the biotech industry also will benefit. *"The United States is already the world leader in biotechnology, and we want to keep it that way,"* said Quayle. *"In 1991 alone it was a \$4 billion industry. It should reach at least \$50 billion by the year 2000 as long as we resist the spread of unnecessary regulation."* (5/26)

CONGRESSWATCH

BOUNCING OUT The answers: 152. 487. 109. The question: How many bounced checks did it take for Democrat Congressman Carroll Hubbard [D-KY] and Bill Alexander [D-AR] to be bounced out of Congress, and for Congressman Beryl Anthony [D-AR] to be forced into a runoff election after yesterday's primaries? *"I could not see this coming,"* Hubbard said. The challengers to all three House members hit the incumbents' check-kiting hard during the primary campaign, including a "Bounce Beryl" campaign by one of Anthony's opponents. (AP, 5/27)

BALANCED BUDGET UPDATE

DEMS LOATHE TO BALANCE BUDGET, CONTROL SPENDING *"They are crying wolf,"* White House spokesman Marlin Fitzwater said of the Democratic-dominated House Budget Committee. The Committee reported on Tuesday that the budget can only be balanced by gutting national defense, cutting important domestic programs, and raising taxes. Fitzwater disagreed strongly, saying, *"there is plenty of room to cut spending in the budget without endangering essential programs."* He emphasized that the budget can be balanced *"by wise spending cuts and economic growth without tax rate increases."* Fitzwater urged congressmen and senators to ignore the Budget Committee's scare tactics and join President Bush in supporting the balanced budget amendment. (5/26)

DRASTIC CUTS NOT REQUIRED *"Contrary to common perceptions, Congress would not even have to cut spending in order to balance the budget. If Congress would only limit the growth of total federal spending to 2.8 percent per year, the deficit would be eliminated by 1997. Our amendment provides a phase-in period so that just such a limitation could take place."* Congressman Jon Kyl [R-AZ] (Washington Times, 5/26)

WIDE SUPPORT, EXCEPT FROM DEM LEADERS

"The balanced budget amendment is the strongest, most realistic shot this Congress has at eliminating the deficit and controlling both the size of government and the growth in federal spending....In a 1990 poll taken nationwide, more than 75 percent of respondents supported the balanced budget amendment....Support is wide and deep, coming from every quarter except that occupied by the Democratic leadership....Democratic leaders defend the status quo. And if there is one absolute certainty in the entire budget debate, it is that the status quo is indefensible." Rep. Bob Smith [R-OR] (Washington Times, 5/26)

POLLWATCH**OHIO STATEWIDE SURVEY:**

BUSH	38%
PEROT	30%
CLINTON	17%

SOURCE: Ohio University's Center for Political Communication (586 adults surveyed May 17-21) - AP, 5/27

ECONOMYWATCH

CONSUMER CONFIDENCE RISES The Conference Board's consumer confidence index rose a dramatic 6.5 points in May, suggesting that Americans are becoming more optimistic about the economy. The index has climbed more than 24 points since the beginning of March. *"This consistent improvement in sentiment appears to leave little doubt that the economy is at long last recovering,"* said Fabian Linden, executive director of the Conference Board's Consumer Research Center. Allen Sinai, chief economist for Boston Co., agreed: *"Improving confidence is a good sign for an entrenched recovery."* (Wall Street Journal, 5/27)

EDITORIALS**CLINTON: TWO POSITIONS FOR EVERY ISSUE**

"On issue after issue, [Clinton] has crafted a two-tiered approach: one for the home market and one for export only.... Who says he has no stand on civil rights for homosexuals? He's got at least two --one for New York and one for Arkansas, one as governor and one as presidential candidate. What does the real Bill Clinton think? The very question makes a giant assumption -- that there still is a real Bill Clinton somewhere inside the office-seeker." Paul Greenberg, editorial page editor, The Arkansas Democrat Gazette

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