

A Billion Here, A Billion There

Editor's Note: This article is third in a series Fr. Bradley is writing for The Charlotte News as a guest columnist.

There is a story about a teacher who asked one of her students if he knew the meaning of apathy. The student, we are told, replied, "I don't know and I don't care!"

A similar attitude of not knowing and not caring has characterized the American people's passive reaction to the U.S. government's massive mishandling of the nation's financial affairs over many years. Only now, when we are beginning to reap what we have sown over all those years, with inflation hurting millions of us and the dollar widely regarded abroad as a sick currency, are we struggling out of our apathy, and wanting to know what has been happening to us.

A few facts about our recent financial history may help our understanding of the situation:

It took 173 years of our nation's history for federal spending to hit \$100 billion a year. But by 1971, only nine years later, government spending had jumped to \$200 billion a year. In 1975, only four years later, we were spending \$300 billion a year. Two years after that, \$400 billion, and this year we proudly announce the first half-trillion budget ever; \$500 billion.

That rapidly accelerating spending would be enough to worry us, since it's our tax dollars that are being spent, even if the nation had all that money to spend. But it doesn't. In 18 out of the last 19 years the federal budget has been in the red: This year we are talking about a deficit of some \$50



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billion dollars. Our history of deficits for so many years causes us to pay over \$40 billion interest annually on the national debt.

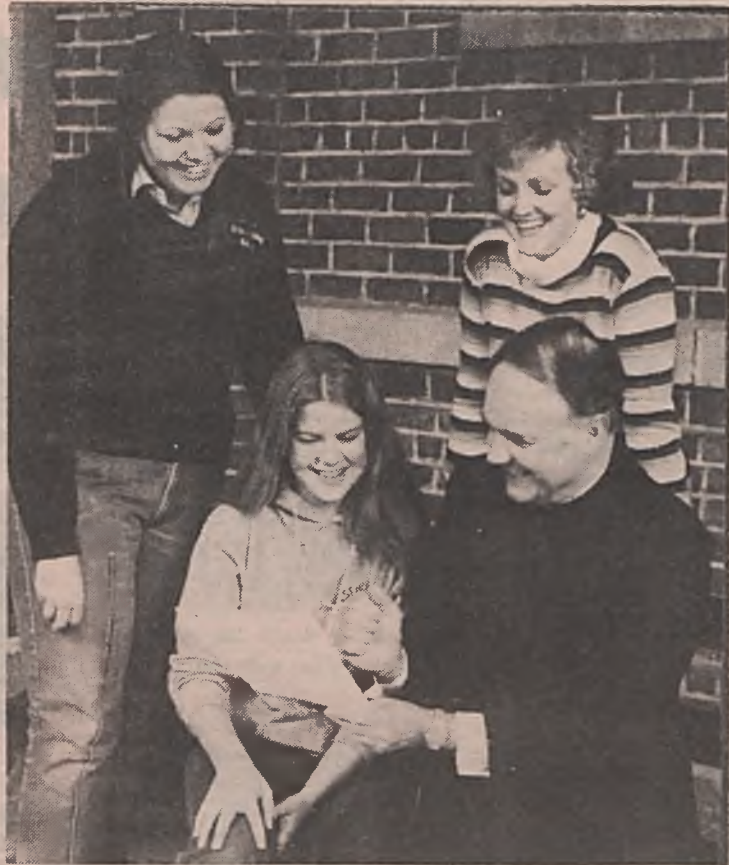
These astronomically large numbers are too large for us to grasp adequately, and no doubt have led to the American people leaving it to the experts to handle. Even when we are told that a billion dollars is such a gigantic sum of money that if it is spent at the rate of \$1,000 a day, seven days a week, it would take 2,716 years to spend it all: Even knowing that, it's still difficult to grasp the gigantic sums spent and owed by our government. But now that we are hurting from inflation, admitted to be the nation's primary problem, we do understand that the misguided policies that have caused our financial plight must be corrected.

The chances of this happening soon do not look good: We read of the Senate's resolve to build for its 100 members a third office building, this one rivaling the Taj Mahal. Nor can we take heart from a story told about

the late Senator Dirksen who said to some fellow senators, "You know, fellas, we spend a billion here and a billion there, and pretty soon, before you know it, we'll be into some real money."

Attention 1978 Grads

The Alumni Office wishes to thank the class of 1978 for the tremendous response to the "follow-up" mailing. However, a few cards have not been returned yet. Please send these cards to the alumni office as soon as possible or use this form.



Fr. Tobin shares an idea with three Abbey students, (left to right) Debbie Prince, Becky Breen and Kim Revels.

NAME _____	TEL# _____
ADDRESS _____	
STREET OR ROUTE _____	CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____
MAJOR _____	DEGREE _____ DATE OF GRADUATION _____
PRESENT STATUS:	
EMPLOYED _____	AT A SALARY OF:
EMPLOYER _____	\$6000-8000 _____ 8000-10,000 _____
LOCATION _____	10,000-12,000 _____ 12,000-14,000 _____
POSITION _____	14,000-16,000 _____
GRADUATE SCHOOL _____	
UNEMPLOYED _____	NAME _____ MAJOR _____
	BY PREFERENCE _____ UNABLE TO FIND A JOB _____
IF UNEMPLOYED, PLEASE COMPLETE 'BELOW:	
TYPE OF WORK DESIRED: (1) _____	
(2) _____	
LOCALITY PREFERRED (1) _____	
(2) _____	
COMMENTS _____	

Please Help Us Update Our Alumni List

You will notice below an expanded form which requests information we would like to keep our records updated. There is a sincere desire within several departments to evaluate and seek to improve the quality of instruction and career preparation. There is also a renewed effort to involve alumni in greater numbers. Finally there is the hope that we can effectively organize a Belmont Abbey Alumni Association as a working arm of the College, as well as a resource for its members. We cannot refrain from adding that we sincerely hope the response to this plea through "Crossroads" will be better than ever. We are eager to serve you.

Name _____ Home Phone _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Wife-Husband's Name _____ Children _____

Employer _____

City _____ State _____

Bus. Phone _____ Job Title _____

Does employer match gifts? _____

Year of graduation or last year attended Abbey _____

What was your degree? _____ Major field _____

When you left the Abbey, did you attend another college?

Name of School _____ Degree _____ Field _____

Current salary range (please circle) Salary range will remain confidential

\$5,000 - 7,000 7,500 - 9,000 9,500 - 12,000 12,500 - 15,000 15,500 - 20,000 20,000 +

Crusaders Stage Red-White Game

On Thursday, November 16, Belmont Abbey College basketball fans gathered into Wheeler Center to see the Crusaders' Annual Red & White Intersquad Exhibition Game.

Coach Bobby Hussey's team provided the spectators with an enjoyable game, which the players also seemed to enjoy.

Acting as head coaches for the two teams as Hussey looked on from the stands were Glenn Rollins of the "Charlotte Observer" sports department and Richard Sowers, sports editor of the "Gastonia Gazette." Abbey faculty members, Dr. Robert Jones, head of the political science department, and Dr. Ben Judkins, head of the sociology department, served as assistant coaches.

Rollins and Judkins teamed up to direct the Red Team which featured Lawrence Carter, Jere Campbell, Greg Howard, John Picinich, Reggie Holmes and Jamie Tomlinson.

The White Team, which consisted of David Kershaw, Mike Littlejohn, Greg Leslie, Jimmy Crawford, Stan Parker, and Steve Reilly, was instructed by the combination of Sowers and Judkins.

The exhibition game ended with the White Team defeating the Red Team by a score of 91-76. Senior Mike Littlejohn scored 27 points, while senior Jimmy Crawford and sophomore David Kershaw both hit 26 points for the White Team.

Senior point guard Lawrence Carter led the Red Team with 24 points. Other double figure men for the Red Team were junior Reggie Holmes with 15 points, Greg Howard with 14, Jere Campbell with 11 and John Picinich with 10 points.

Leading rebounders were Reggie Holmes of the White Team with 17 and Jimmy Crawford of the Red Team with 13.