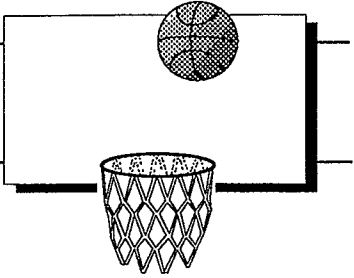


PARTING SHOT



GEORGE BUSH

September 10, 1988

The Honorable James G. Martin
Governor
Post Office Box 12377
Raleigh, North Carolina 27605

Dear Jim:

Thank you for giving me this opportunity to restate my stand against tax increases.

As you know, I have long believed that tax increases would damage our economic recovery. Throughout this campaign, I have been consistent. I will not raise taxes, period. There have been over 17 million new jobs in America since 1982, but tax increases would put those jobs at risk.

Therefore, I am strongly opposed to any increase in excise taxes, including those on tobacco or cigarettes. This would harm North Carolina and be inflationary for the nation's economy as a whole.

As you know, this issue is one of many on which I stand in sharp contrast to my opponent, who raised taxes, including cigarette taxes, by over \$100 million this year alone. Let me say it again, Jim: I will not raise taxes, period.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,


George Bush

You have my word on it. And Jim, I don't think you should raise taxes either. Forget that balanced budget nonsense. Float a bond, run a debt. It works for me.

One more thing. See if you can shake loose a memorable memo or two for *North Carolina Insight*. The S & Ls are bankrupt. The banks are on the brink. We could all use a laugh. And read my lips, Jim. Anonymity guaranteed.

— George