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The Day Ahead: What Would Victory Look Like Today?

Bonds weren't entirely clear in telling us if yesterday's ECB tapering announcement was a "good thing that simply needed to be digested," or if it was another brick in the recent wall of pain. The technical levels in the following chart can help us assess the health of any potential bounce back. These are essentially the same levels we've been discussing, but with a slightly more specificity due to recent movement.



What I had been referring to as "2.42%" I now would see as more of a range between 2.413 and to 2.449. With 2 recent instances of supportive bounces at 2.449, it would be a **good-enough** result to simply hold under that ceiling heading into the weekend. 2.413 would be a stronger vote in favor of edifying a ceiling in this general range. Finally, 2.344 would be the best we could hope for today.

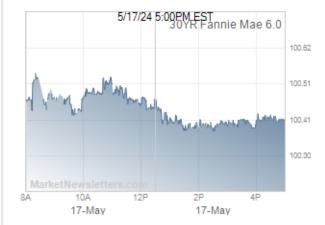
Whatever bonds are able to accomplish in this trading session, the trend marked by the yellow line is the one that **needs to be defeated** before yields make a new high. Yes, we began to break it this week, during Wednesday's short-covering rally, but we'd need to hold below the line for another day or 2 in order to confirm.

As far as economic data goes, today is light, with only Wholesale Inventories and Consumer Sentiment at 10am. Tradeflows and technicals will likely have a bigger effect.

MBS & Treasury Market Data

	Price / Yield	Change
MBS UMBS 6.0	100.40	-0.15
MBS GNMA 6.0	100.78	+0.04
10 YR Treasury	4.4223	+0.0454
30 YR Treasury	4.5610	+0.0549

Pricing as of: 5/17 5:59PM EST



Average Mortgage Rates

	Rate	Change	Points
Mortgage News	Daily		
30 Yr. Fixed	7.09%	+0.07	0.00
15 Yr. Fixed	6.56%	+0.03	0.00
30 Yr. FHA	6.62%	+0.07	0.00
30 Yr. Jumbo	7.35%	+0.04	0.00
5/1 ARM	7.30%	+0.06	0.00
Freddie Mac			
30 Yr. Fixed	7.02%	-0.42	0.00
15 Yr. Fixed	6.28%	-0.48	0.00
Mortgage Banke	rs Assoc.		
30 Yr. Fixed	7.08%	-0.10	0.63
15 Yr. Fixed	6.61%	+0.01	0.65
30 Yr. FHA	6.89%	-0.03	0.94
30 Yr. Jumbo	7.22%	-0.09	0.58
5/1 ARM	6.56%	-0.04	0.66
Rates as of: 5/17			

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