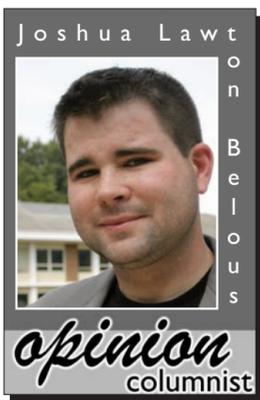


## Senator Clinton

*A Third Term for Pres. Bush?*



Americans like the familiar. We like our *Pirates of the Caribbean* sequels. We like the brand new remixes of a song that was released only two weeks ago. We like getting onto I-66 during rush hour and being stuck in gridlock every day. The familiar is comfortable and that is why Hillary Clinton is the best candidate for the presidency.

By electing Sen. Clinton as president, not only will we have the self gratifying feeling of a bygone Bill Clinton era, but we will also be able to continue to despise the Executive Branch. A first term as president for Clinton is a third term for the politics of George W. Bush Jr., but better. Clinton is a one-woman show who does not need a Dick Cheney to help her propagate her lies, apologize for her deceit, take credit for other peoples' accomplishments or pretend that the American populace is a great multitude of morons who are incapable of doing a simple Google search for the truth.

Clinton's most recent lie (as of writing this column), as reported by CBS, was of her arrival in Bosnia as the First Lady. Clinton remembered her visit to Bosnia in 1996: "There was supposed to be some kind of a greeting ceremony at the airport, but instead we just ran with our heads down to get to the vehicles, to get to our base." Clinton continues by stating that "I remember landing under sniper fire, there was no greeting ceremony and we basically were told to run to our cars." Obviously, Clinton has not been acquainted with the

information age and the ease with which reporters can research old footage and news reports, because if she had been, she would not have told such a blatant lie.

CBS' news report presented footage not only showing First Lady Clinton greeting soldiers on the tarmac, after landing, but also hugging a Bosnian girl as well. During CBS' report, the CBS reporter, who had accompanied Clinton on her visit to Bosnia, explains that First Lady Clinton neither encountered any type of fire on the tarmac of the airport nor when she went to any of the military outposts and bases around Bosnia. Clinton even wrote about there being "snipers in the hills (around the tarmac)" in her 2003 autobiography. Either recorded history is lying, or she is.

According to Michael Dobbs in a recent *Washington Post* article, Clinton responded to the allegations that she had embellished her Bosnia trip story by stating "I made a mistake. That happens. It proves I'm human, which, you know, for some people is a revelation." As a man who has had the unfortunate experience of being shot at by a sniper on more than one occasion, the experience needs no embellishing. Because her husband, Pres. Clinton, evaded the Vietnam draft, he has never known the warm feeling that one gets from knowing that your life is important enough for someone to take. It is hard to imagine that the most powerful man in the world would willingly send his wife and only daughter to a dangerous country where they might be killed.

Fortunately, we are not yet being asked to choose between a Republican candidate for president and a Democratic candidate for president. I believe that if the Democrats choose Clinton as their nominee for president that we, as Americans, must remember that her completely forgetting what happened after landing in Bosnia, and throughout her trip in Bosnia, means that Clinton is either delusional, experiencing Alzheimer's or knows that she lied. None of these are attributes that Americans should want in a president.



America has officially lost its mind. To most of us, this probably isn't news. If our obsession with celebrities' babies hadn't given it away, then reality TV should have at least given us a clue. But this is ridiculous.

By "this," I'm referring to the recent scandal involving the now-former governor of New York, Eliot Spitzer. If you're not aware of the situation, Spitzer allegedly spent over \$80,000 on prostitutes. In the wake of this, Spitzer resigned two weeks ago. The news made for headlines, front pages and a general feeling of shock and disgust among Democrats.

Don't get me wrong, I understand why this is a bad thing. Regardless of your stance on prostitution, it is illegal. Spitzer's position as an elected official, hard stance on crime and his image as "Mr. Clean" makes his own crime fairly hypocritical and morally reprehensible. Further, the \$80,000 are tax dollars he's being paid, in part, to prevent the exact type of thing that he is participating in. His resignation was undoubtedly the right move and helped to stop the issue from escalating even further.

## Are You Kidding Me?

*Looking for the Real Enemy*

But this issue should be the last thing on our minds in light of the other political scandal we have been witnessing for the last five years.

If you're not aware of the situation, this politician has been promoting and justifying his illegal activity in front of our faces since 2003. He has repeatedly ignored the rules that we as a nation have submitted to, while also ignoring the popular opinions of the American public. While Spitzer is accused of wasting around \$80,000, this politician's illegal activity is estimated to cost us over \$200,000 per minute this year alone. Spitzer's mistake hurt himself, but this mistake has killed anywhere from 100,000 to 1,000,000 people.

According to a study by the Center for Public Integrity, Pres. Bush and his aides have told at least 935 lies to us since Sept. 11, 2001 about the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. The president alone has told at least 231 lies about weapons of mass destruction in Iraq and 28 about its links to al-Qaeda, a total of 259.

A major justification for our war was deposing of Saddam Hussein, an evil dictator who killed thousands of Iraqi citizens, who used force to control the Iraqi people and government, who brazenly ignored the rules of the United Nations, who illegally sentenced thousands of his own people to death, who could have possessed weapons of mass destruction and is a threat to world peace. He was responsible for the economic struggle of his country. And due to his violent tendencies, he was executed.

Meanwhile, Pres. Bush has killed hundreds of Iraqi citizens, used force to control the Iraqi people and government, brazenly ignored the rules of the United Nations and in the process, sentenced

thousands of his own people to death in a war made illegal by the institution that the United States champions. His country possesses thousands of nuclear weapons, and he declared war on two countries within the last two years. In large part because of these wars, the United States went from its largest surplus in history to its largest deficit in its history.

By his own criteria, Pres. Bush should have been stripped of office and executed. By his own logic, we should be begging foreign superpowers for liberation. The American people are suffering from one of the most incompetent and corrupt administrations of our history, and it's one that is destroying our economy, our image and any illusion of the moral high ground we have prided ourselves on. Pres. Bush inherited a very hard situation, and he has proceeded to make it categorically worse.

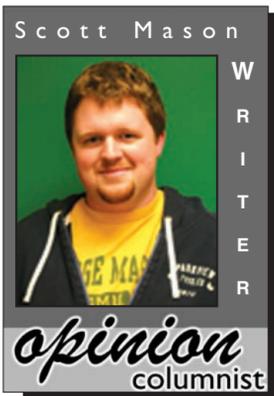
How dare the media focus on any other corrupt politician? We are being ruled by an administration that has completely and utterly failed us, and yet both the people and the media are content to wait it out until the next president comes along. Why? All we are accomplishing here is putting an even greater burden on the next president's shoulders as they inherit this mishandled mess.

America is rotting under an evil administration that is spreading its message of terror, hate and prejudice around the world. And as long as we allow ourselves to sit on our hands, to wait it out for the next president to fix things for us, we send the message to the rest of the world that we as a people are too uncaring to deal with the most dangerous terrorist that the world knows today.

So forgive me if I could care less about Eliot Spitzer.

## A More Perfect Union Through Change

*Obama is the Change We Need*



The other day I was watching Sen. Barack Obama give his speech on race, now known as the "More Perfect Union" speech. The speech made me realize that it has truly been a long time since the young voters in this country, including us, have been excited over a political campaign. We know that these politicians are always

after us. We know that as current 18 to 24-year-old college students, we have yet to rally around a candidate like Obama. Overall, today's voter apathy, lack of political efficacy, combined with a severe distrust in government, has severely altered the American political arena.

This condition has worked its way throughout culture, to the point where a good Bush joke is funnier than ever, and people once thought that Martin Sheen was president. Yet, the trend may be for politicians to no longer recruit party members, but compete for the infamous "swing-vote" (those who are moderate, independent, apathetic and the uneducated) to win elections. However, the senator from Illinois is changing all of this.

I personally agree with little of what the senator wants to accomplish and make his presidential policy. I am a Florida

resident and registered Republican with strong libertarian leanings. After studying with economists like Dr. Vernon Smith and Dr. Bart Wilson here on George Mason University's campus, I also see government designed healthcare as something that is doomed to fail; I may not agree with the propositions of Obama, but I still like him. He speaks with such a captivating presence that I feel that nothing that he will say can alter my opinion about him. He has sold me his vision of change for America.

I am not the only person or student who feels this way. His promise for change is so strong and motivating that many of us have now jumped on board the Obama fan base. College campuses are now assumed to vote for him. That is because change stretches across political alignments, and all of the candidates are advertising some kind of change. But Obama is the one

who has really capitalized on it.

He has taken an apathetic youth culture that, before now, simply did not care about politics, and brought at least some type of involvement to the young people of this country. Why has it taken so long? The movie *V for Vendetta* comes to my mind. The movie advocates for a strong libertarian style government, and allies its depiction of the dictatorial dystopian Britain with the modern United States. All, of course, under the leadership of Pres. Bush and the power he has gained for the office of the presidency. Though there has been no freedom fighting terrorist dressed like Guy Fawkes, appearing here in the United States, there has been a desire for change from the policies established by the president, as the faults of this presidency are now evident to everyone in

See **CHANGE**, Page A8

## BROADSIDE

*George Mason University's Student Newspaper*

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### CORRECTIONS

In the March 3rd edition, *Broadside* incorrectly cited Alpha Lambda Delta as the organizer of the March 24 and 26 Holocaust Remembrance Events. Alpha Lambda Delta played a volunteer role. However, the primary sponsors were the University Scholars, Mason Community Outreach and the Social Programming Fund.

In the previous issue a quote was misattributed to Maria Dakake, people giving the quote identified themselves as David Dakake.

If you have a question regarding the accuracy or fairness of a story, please contact Editor in Chief Janice Leary by phone at (703) 993-2950, or through e-mail at [ei@broadsideonline.com](mailto:ei@broadsideonline.com).

### EDITORIAL POLICY

The letters, columns and views expressed on this page are solely those of the writers. They do not reflect the views of *Broadside* or its staff, unless otherwise noted.

Letters to the editor and commentary from our readers are welcome and are printed on the basis of space, quality and timeliness. All submissions are the property of *Broadside* and may be edited for brevity, clarity and grammar. Material containing libel, racial slurs, personal attacks or obscenities may be edited or rejected. The author's name, class year (and/or title where appropriate), major and daytime phone number must be included for verification of authenticity. Submissions will only be accepted via e-mail to [opinion@broadsideonline.com](mailto:opinion@broadsideonline.com) (no attachment files will be accepted). The deadline for submission is Thursday by 10 p.m. Letters to the editor and commentaries strictly represent the opinions of the authors.

### THE PAPER

*Broadside* is a weekly publication printed each Monday for the George Mason University and surrounding Fairfax community. The editors at *Broadside* have exclusive authority over the content that is published. There are no outside parties that play a role in the newspaper's content, and should there be a question or complaint regarding this policy, the editor in chief should be notified at the information given above.

*Broadside* is a free publication. Limit one copy per person. Each additional copy is 25 cents.

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## Should Palestine be Given the Time of Day?

*The Islamic Case Against Palestine*

The Pro-Palestinian Movement is becoming increasingly appealing to Western Christian communities. At various events held here, and elsewhere, they have made it appear as though Christianity itself was the target of Zionist racism. Therefore, Christians in North America should side with Palestine. Pandering to uninformed Christians shows a tacit admission that most pro-Palestinians are Muslim. The population of the Gaza Strip, to cite an example, is barely one percent Christian, with a 2005 survey noting 9,600 confessors amongst a 1.3 million population. So, maybe the approach of portraying the Palestine cause as Christian is a bit out there, yet when one thinks about it as such, it is considering it Islamic. Palestine is fundamentally incompatible with the Islamic religion.

Like many religions, Islam holds a strong disdain for nationalism. Islamic scholar Dr. Mohammad Omar Farooq once wrote, "Islam also repudiates vulgar forms of nationalism that artificially aggrandize one's own people over others on no moral basis." In their work *The Roots of Nationalism in the Muslim World*, Shabir Ahmed and Abid Karim contrasted the two entities: "Nationalism is a concept alien to Islam because it calls for unity based on family and tribal ties, whereas Islam binds people together on the Aqedah, that is belief in Allah (swt) and His Messenger (saaw)." According to the experts themselves, Palestinian nationalism should fall under

the same condemnation.

There is only one acceptable breed of nationalism according to the Qur'an: Zionism. Ironically, the most hated of nationalisms is the one justified by Qur'anic verses: "Children of Israel! Call to mind the (special) favour which I bestowed upon you, and that I preferred you to all other nations (for My Message)" and "We said unto the Children of Israel after him: Dwell in the land; but when the promise of the Hereafter (wa'3dul akhirati) cometh to pass We shall bring you as a crowd gathered out of various nations."

Islamic principle, and to a lesser extent practice, have a noted toleration for other monotheistic religions, specifically Christianity and Judaism. Identified as "People of the Book," they are supposed to receive better treatment in Islamic society than other sects. This toleration of other monotheisms has been soundly rejected by the various Palestinian political fronts. Both Hamas and the Palestinian Authority have been known to intimidate Palestinian converts to Christianity, desecrate Christian holy sites in their territory and broadcast hateful sermons, including one by Dr. Ahmad Abu Halabiya who declared "Allah the almighty has called upon us not to ally with the Jews or the Christians, not to like them, not to become their partners, not to support them and not to sign agreements with them."

Those of the Islamic faith who will concede these things will state it is not for nationalism, which is anathema or the poor treatment of minorities, that they side with Palestine. Many will make it a human rights issue, believing that seeing Muslims

and Arabs imprisoned and even tortured by the Israeli military is inexcusable; also of course, the occupation itself is a product of human rights outrage. But if this wing of pro-Palestinian Islam is so outraged by human rights violations, then why have they been silent on the numerous atrocities committed by groups like Fatah and Hamas, which have included political dissent crushing, honor killings, religious repression and many other activities that are seldom or never committed by the Israeli army?

This can be taken further; not far from Israel is Syria. Syria has 38 officially sanctioned methods of torture, including fingernail-pulling and enclosing dissenters in windowless rooms for months on end. In 1982, former Syrian president Hafez Assad killed over 30,000 Arab Muslim civilians. To compare, in the first five years of the Intifada, Israel killed 3,000 Arab Muslims, most of who were combatants. For the last several decades, the Assad dynasty of Syria has systematically violated and occupied Lebanon, committing massacres and assassinating politicians. But how many rallies at the Capitol involved even one protester carrying a sign demanding "Syria: end the occupation"?

Efforts will undoubtedly be continued by the pro-Palestine movement to harmonize their endeavors with Christianity and Islam. They will talk about the Christian communities in peril in the occupied territories, and the Muslims who suffer under occupation. Yet, as seen with matters of human rights, nationalism as anathema and treatment of fellow monotheistic religions Palestine has shown itself to be largely, if not fully, incompatible with Islam, having perverted it like al-Qaeda, the Wahhabis and the al-Bashir Government of Sudan. Since Christians and true Muslims would not give these parties the time of day, maybe we shouldn't give the time of day to Palestine either.



# Save Gunston!

George Mason University Administrators say he's got to go, and students say no.

I'm sure you're wondering why we should keep the green furry blob that is Gunston. It may come as a surprise to many of you that there has actually been a committee formed to evaluate whether or not Gunston should continue to be our mascot, and apparently, they've made their decision. Although the final decision of what to do with Mason's mascot is up to the President's Council, it concerns me that it seems like the students are the only voices in favor of keeping our faithful mascot. I'll admit that when I came to Mason I didn't "get" Gunston either. As I am not a native Virginian, I missed all the "Bill of Rights" and "Gunston Hall" history lessons. I just thought that Gunston was a name that they gave the green blob; much like you'd name a pet bunny "Thumper" or a pet dog "Rover." Let's spend a minute contemplating exactly what a "Gunston" is.

Named after the Gunston Hall plantation, which was the home of our namesake George Mason, Gunston the mascot is a familiar name

among Mason students. The Mason history of mascots is one of rough times and former failures. The mascot of Mason has ranged from the old man in colonial garb as a Patriot to the crazy man with a 'fro called the Mason Maniac. By far my favorite of all was the year long stint of having a gorilla as a mascot to emulate the basketball teams' concept of being fast and strong. Why no one thought of perhaps a cougar or a lion as a fast and strong animal I'm not sure, but the gorilla was definitely not a hit.

I personally fail to see how changing the mascot from Gunston, who is roughly 12 years old and one of the longest standing of the Mason mascots, to another white male colonial man represents our university. The kicker of it all for me is that it seems people think that putting face paint on a white man will make us think he's diverse. He isn't diverse. He is a white man who killed other white men for freedom. I for one am not embarrassed that America fought for the rights to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. While society often forgets the contributions of non-European immigrants; I cannot see why we are so afraid of having a white mascot.

The problem is that we are too afraid of the marketing consequences of being politically correct, and we're too afraid of acknowledging the good qualities of a patriot and going against the PC standards. If we were to fully own what having a patriot mascot entailed, we probably wouldn't have any real problems. Granted, we'd have to get a new guy to put on colonial garb, as our current man in the costume is diverse. We would have to get rid of the freakishly large scary heads that people love to put on their "Colonial" mascots,

but we might be ok. The problem with accepting the real patriot concept is that it isn't PC and we therefore won't do it. We're too afraid of being white supremacists by having a patriot mascot, so instead we're going to paint his face. Seriously, painting his face is supposed to fool me? If we think the student body and the general Mason community is so easily manipulated that they wouldn't see that it was just a white man in face paint, then perhaps our university should spend less time worrying about marketing and more time worrying about the quality of education they are providing.

I guess marketing brings me to my second concern about what is happening with the Mason mascot. Why is it that we are deciding our mascot based on what is marketable? The best and most loved mascots are not marketable. How is a Quaker or a turtle or a turkey marketable? Stanford's mascot is a tree - seriously a tree - but the Stanford kids love the growth of knowledge or whatever a tree is meant to represent. The truth is that many schools have unmarketable mascots, and many students love the unmarketable mascots more than the marketable ones. I mean, Mason could have a fierce puma for a mascot, but who would love a puma? What puma is going to get you all riled up for a game? I guess I'm also concerned that we're so afraid that Gunston, our lovely asexual komodo dragon (who is fire safe!), is unmarketable that we're trying to reach out to students by changing our mascot. If a student doesn't come to Mason because they hate the mascot, I'd personally just assume they don't want to come. If people won't go to a game because of the mascot, they obviously aren't real Mason fans.

I fail to see why student opinion is hardly considered in this critical decision making process.

Who cares if alumni don't like Gunston? They probably weren't here when he was the mascot, or they were just such big fans of the fast and strong gorilla that they will never be happy with a white face painted man anyway. About five years ago, Student Government put out a survey regarding the mascot. The number who loved and the number who hated Gunston was close to split, but there was a majority of students who preferred that Gunston only be trained better or stay the same than those that wished to substitute Gunston with a patriot. The numbers don't lie. Patriot: 25 percent, Gunston in its current state: 26 percent. Gunston's current state plus those who wanted Gunston trained better: 37 percent. There is no denying that students preferred to keep Gunston five years ago, and it is likely that of the students who actually attend Mason athletics, the number differential is even higher in Gunston's favor.

As for the 22 percent that wished that Gunston could become more fierce, I'd like to quote the current Student Body President in his comments on the www.MasonMetro.com Web site, "Gunston represents fun, and I think that is the George Mason spirit...we're not here to kill everyone else, or to take everyone else down. We're here to have fun!" In case you thought for one minute that Gunston wasn't fierce enough, I'd recommend watching the video "Gunston Goes Off" or "Gunston from the Streets" to help you see how amazing our mascot really is (visit: <http://www.masonmetro.com/gunstonfiles.cfm>). Gunston is a representation of the love Mason students have for our school, for our team and for our student body. In no way can I support an administration that is trying to stomp that out with green and gold face paint.



Nicole Kukuruda  
WRITER  
opinion columnist

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GEORGE MASON 52

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### What is the Senior Scholarship Initiative?

The Senior Scholarship Initiative (SSI) is a fund-raising campaign that allows graduating students to invest in the future of George Mason University and make a difference for generations of students to come.

### Why should I participate?

SSI enables you to give something back to Mason by helping provide needed funds for the university. Did you know that Mason alumni contribute annual donations every year that benefit all students? Senior giving is extra special because it is your first step of transitioning from student to alumnus.

### Do I get anything for giving?

Of course, the good feeling of helping others! And your name will be listed on a senior plaque that will be displayed on Mason's Fairfax Campus. You have until April 30, 2008, to make a gift in the amount of \$20.08 (or more) to have your name on the plaque and make history by being part of the first senior class to participate in the SSI legacy.

### How can I contribute?

It's easy! Go to [give.gmu.edu](http://give.gmu.edu). Click on "Make a Gift" and fill in your info. Make sure to choose "General Scholarships" under "Donor Allocation" to ensure that funds go to the SSI.

### When do I begin giving?

Today! Go online to [give.gmu.edu](http://give.gmu.edu).

If your gift is at least \$20.08, and it's made by April 30, 2008, your name will be listed on the senior plaque!

Our goal is to have 200 participants. Just think, 200 seniors giving \$20.08 will raise more than \$4,000! Together, we can make a difference, one student at a time!



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## Quotes



"I remember landing under sniper fire. There was supposed to be some kind of a greeting ceremony at the airport, but instead we just ran with our heads down to get into the vehicles to get to our base."

--Hillary Clinton's account of her 1996 visit to Bosnia

"So I made a mistake. That happens. It proves I'm human, which, you know, for some people, is a revelation."

--Hillary Clinton's response to recent disputations of her description of her Bosnia trip.

Americans buy 65 million newspapers every day. So many of those 65 million newspapers are simply discarded or never recycled. The amount of wood and paper we throw away each year is enough to heat 50,000,000 homes for 20 years. With the growing concern over global warming and the environment, more and more people are taking steps to help remedy this eminent threat to the world. That's why *Broadside* is teaming up with the George Mason University Environmental Awareness group and is launching its newest campaign, "Bin *Broadside*."

Over the coming months, look for special features in the paper on the things that recycling your copy of *Broadside* can help preserve and even save. In addition, look for the posters above the *Broadside* newspaper racks showing the month's environmentally conscious days being observed.

Although the recycling efforts at Mason are considerable, so much can be improved, as with any effort. *Broadside* and GMUEA are taking bold steps to improve recycling efforts on campus. These efforts will be even more effective if you, the reader, can do your part and bin *Broadside*—and anything else recyclable.

Toward the end of the semester, look for EarthFest, an event celebrating the environment and the ways we can help save it. So much will be in store for the Mason community from this one event.

Be on the watch this semester for a whole new side to *Broadside* and GMUEA—we're taking back the environment.

# Bin BROADSIDE

## A New Voice in the White House is Needed

CHANGE continued from page A6

America, and around the globe.

We now realize there are some things that are very wrong with the way this government is run from the oval office. Our cell phone calls are monitored secretly and our IP addresses watched.

The president can command our troops into war without having it declared by Congress, and dissenting opinions concerning the president have been drowned out for

a long time. Frankly, young America is tired. For our formative years we have seen nothing but presidents bogged by scandals and policies that infringe on our civil liberties.

Obama promises a different America with an open dialogue on race, among other things, and though I am no expert of his platform, I can say that the leadership of a party other than the GOP is more than welcome. The other candidates do promise change but are they the change.

One is from the incumbent party, and

the other has already been in the White House as first lady, so what form of change do they serve?

The change needed is more than just in party or name. The change needs someone fresh and different, because obviously the old solutions are not working for us. November will be the test for the American electorate.

Will we pass, or are we still the same country that elected President Bush twice?

## Letter to the Editor

### On Concealed Carry-on Campus Week

Dear Editor,

I was disturbed to find large fliers on campus promoting "Concealed Carry on Campus Week" March 31 - April 5 supported by the College Republicans of GMU. I believe in free speech. I believe in the right to gather together to protest. I draw the line, however, at such a blatant attempt to encourage others to bring concealed weapons on campus. I liken it to the now standard free speech argument—One does not have the right of free speech when one yells "fire" in a crowded theater. In this case, the encouragement to bring concealed weapons goes well beyond the right of free speech. My husband is a professor at George Mason. I would like to think that he wouldn't have to be concerned with which student might be "packing" a weapon in class. I have heard the arguments as they relate to school shootings in the past. I do not believe that simply having a weapon to "fire back" will solve the broader issues associated with school violence. It is ignorant to believe that guns solve gun violence. It is preposterous to think that an untrained young student could bring a weapon to class under the pretense of protection from a rogue gunman that might stray onto their path. I am vehemently opposed to such a stance. I am equally opposed to the encouragement or even mere implication that concealed weapons have a place on campus for the week in question or any other date.

Sincerely,  
Jennifer Nauright  
spouse of Professor John Nauright

WHO'S STILL DRIVING TO WORK? #5

# THE EXASPERATED HILL STAFFER

Late again. Second time this week. Another briefing missed. Another morning playing catch-up. People, no doubt, are starting to notice. It's really getting to be a problem. But it's not her, it's the traffic. Every morning, sitting there on 95 going nowhere, the time just ticking by. She could be sitting onboard the VRE, whisking her way into town, zipping into work. The Early Bird, that's what they'll call her now.



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