

NEWS CHANNEL 8, WASHINGTON, DC

MEANWHILE, MOSTLY POSITIVE REACTION FROM ANOTHER PRESIDENTIAL SPEECH, THIS ONE TO THE NATION'S STUDENTS. HIS SPEECH AT WAKEFIELD HIGH SCHOOL IN ARLINGTON WAS SHOWN TO STUDENTS NATIONWIDE. THE PRESIDENT ENCOURAGED STUDENTS TO HAVE BIG DREAMS, AND TO USE EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES TO ACHIEVE THEM. "It tells me if I do right and do good in school that I can grow up and maybe even be the President. " "my junior year is really my crucial year, and I know I got the President on my side and really good support team so I know I can do good. " SOME CONSERVATIVE GROUPS ACCUSED PRESIDENT OBAMA OF STEPPING TOO FAR INTO LOCAL EDUCATION. SCHOOLS WERE NOT REQUIRED TO SHOW THE SPEECH, BUT MOST DID. NEARLY 600 VIRGINIA STATE EMPLOYEES ARE OUT OF A JOB AS GOVERNOR TIM Kaine TRIES TO CLOSE A DEFICIT. VIRGINIA STATE COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITY'S ACROSS THE BOARD WILL SEE ABOUT A 15 PERCENT REDUCTION IN STATE ASSISTANCE. GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY IS FACING AN EIGHT PERCENT CUT IN ITS STATE FUNDING UNDER THE GOVERNOR'S PLAN. THIS IS THE SECOND ROUND OF BUDGET CUTS FOR THE UNIVERSITY, IN JUST OVER A YEAR, ADDING UP TO CLOSE TO 30 MILLION DOLLARS. Any type of cuts is hurting everybody it's just not it's not just hurting certain people so everything's going up it seems like. It's a sizeable cut not just for george mason but all the public institutions so it's going to be a real burden for all of us. ALSO UNDER THE CUTS, THE STATE WILL REDUCE CONTRIBUTIONS TO EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT PLANS BY MORE THAN 100 MILLION DOLLARS. AND TWO STATE PRISONS WILL SHUT DOWN. STUDENTS IN LOUDOUN COUNTY BEGAN THEIR NEW SCHOOL YEAR WITH NEW FEES. LAST YEAR A SCHOOL PARKING PERMIT COST 25-DOLLARS. THIS YEAR, IT COSTS 200. THE SCHOOL SYSTEM IS ALSO CHARGING FEES FOR SPORTS AND ADVANCED PLACEMENT EXAMS. THE SCHOOL BOARD SAYS IT HAD TO INSTITUTE THE FEES TO MAKE UP FOR A MAJOR BUDGET SHORTFALL. "it was either A impose new fees. Or B do away with programs and personnel in a very bad job market. And we thought this was the lesser of the evils involved. " "they're 200 dollars. And it's not like an easy thing to get ahold of, just to spend on a parking pass to park at school where we have to come. " FAIRFAX COUNTY ALSO RAISED THEIR PARKING PASS FEE FROM 150 TO 200 DOLLARS. COMPARE THAT TO FREDERICK PARKING PASS FEE FROM 150 TO 200 DOLLARS. COMPARE THAT TO FREDERICK COUNTY, WHERE IT'S ONLY 20. **A NEW REPORT SAYS WASHINGTON IS THE NATION'S FOURTH-BEST COLLEGE TOWN! THE DC AREA RANKS BEHIND ONLY NEW YORK, SAN FRANCISCO AND BOSTON. THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE FOR ECONOMIC RESEARCH RANKED THE TOP 75 CITIES. THEY'RE BASED ON ACADEMIC ENVIRONMENT, QUALITY OF LIFE AND PROFESSIONAL OPPORTUNITIES. THE DC AREA IS HOME TO AT LEAST 140-THOUSAND COLLEGE STUDENTS.** THE FIRST LADY'S IDEA TO OPEN A NEW FARMERS' MARKET IN THE DISTRICT IS CAUSING SOME CONTROVERSY. IF APPROVED, IT WOULD MEAN CLOSING VERMONT AVENUE NORTHWEST BETWEEN H AND I STREETS FROM ONE TO EIGHT P-M, ON THURSDAY AFTERNOONS. BUT THE MARKET WOULD NOT BE HELD EVERY THURSDAY. THE FIRST LADY'S APPLICATION FOR THE FARMERS MARKET HAS NOT BEEN APPROVED YET. TOSS TO WEATHERSTILL AHEAD ON THE MORNING REPORT, SUMMER MAY BE OVER BUT NOW'S THE TIME TO DO SOME CHEAP TRAVELING! WE'LL TELL YOU ABOUT SOME GREAT FALL DEALS, AFTER THE BREAK. PLUS, LISTENING IN, ON INSECTS! WHAT THE ANT WORLD CAN TEACH US ABOUT COMMUNICATION. SOME AMAZING STUFF, COMING UP. AND STEPHANIE IS BACK WITH ANOTHER CHECK OF YOUR WEDNESDAY COMMUTE.

