



Niagara Falls was bathed in orange and maroon lights in honor of Virginia Tech, marking the first time that the falls have been lit in the wake of a tragedy.

The Student Union of Serbia expresses its deepest sympathy for the families of students murdered at Virginia Tech, as well as to all citizens of the United States of America. In these hard times for Blacksburg, Va., and for all of the United States, the students of Serbia feel compassion for our American colleagues' sorrow and encourage them to find the way to continue normal life, as hard as that seems now.

— The Student Union of Serbia, Belgrade, Serbia, received April 17, 2007.

“Today, we are all Hokies.” That has been the constant message I have received from around the nation and the world concerning the events of April 16. The outpouring of love for our beloved university has been gratifying and stunning.

Today, there is pain everywhere in our community, and our hearts are troubled. Yet I am certain that our university will persevere. The spirit of Virginia Tech cannot allow otherwise. We who once walked its halls and studied in its classrooms were trained to represent all that is good and right in the world and we will prevail. Evil can never succeed, not while there are men and women like the people of Virginia Tech who, every day, reach for success and endeavor to improve the human condition. More than ever, I am proud to be part of the community of Virginia Tech.

— Homer Hickham '64, author of several best-selling novels, including *Rocket Boys*, which was made into the film “October Sky.”