

**Pawn** just read this over at the Gray Lady:

Kristen Stewart, the 19-year-old co-star of the “*Twilight*” blockbusters, plays a New Orleans stripper in “*Welcome to the Rileys*,” which also stars James Gandolfini as a damaged businessman. Mr. Cooper noted that Ms. Stewart also has a noncompetition entry: in “*The Runaways*,” directed by Floria Sigismondi, Ms. Stewart plays a young Joan Jett.

[Sundance, With a New Leader, Hones Its Indy Edge - NYTimes.com](#)

**Pawn** has a warm place in his heart for Ms Jett. Not only for her great contributions to Rock and Roll music, but for her stand up performance back in Iowa during the 2004 Presidential campaign. As I [journalled](#) then...

Jeneane Garofalo is in town, as is Joan Jett. They are doing a show, kind of an Iowa Perfect Storm USO show to thank and bolster the Dean faithful. Seems that just one floor up is a meeting of the Young Republican’s Caucus Organizing Committee. You have to ask yourself if the facility scheduler had thought this through or not. Anyway, once the YRs find out that the Dean people are downstairs they take a vote of the organizing committee and have a unanimous vote of seven yeas (I’m not making this up, the head of the organizing committee boasted about it on TV) to go down to the Dean rally and do what they can to disrupt it!



*Jeneane Garofalo addresses the crowd (photo courtesy RedPeg.com)*

This is unreal, these guys have taken compassionate conservatism to a whole new level! They head down to the rally, armed with Bush/Cheney campaign signs (so there is no doubt who to blame...) and start trying to inspire a melee. The Dean folks simply block the B/C signs with their own, not a tough task given the numbers involved. There is a large contingent of Planned Parenthood folks and “Stand Up for Choice” there as well, which further skews the balance of power.

No one is taking the bait, however, no one is rising to fight, nor do anything other than try to block the B/C signs. Then, Joan Jett starts to play the National Anthem. This is apparently too much patriotism for the YRs and much like the effect of Slim Whitman music on the Martians in Tim Burton’s *Mars Attacks*, their heads simply start to explode.

Well, okay, not exactly, but it’s almost the same thing. One of the more compassionate conservatives decides to give Ms Jett a really good shove, while she is playing. Our portly

protector of family values seemed to have misjudged his target, however, as Joan (about one third this guys size, and more than twice his age) shrugs off his shove and then comes back swinging. She manages to land a few good ones before Dean people separate the two.



*Joan Jett immediately after the altercation (photo courtesy RedPeg.com)*

This is all captured by several TV cameras, including that of Joe Jensen, the guy who trained us on Friday. This is a lead story on all of the local news. You just can't make this stuff up! Okay then, the gloves are off in the Republican camp at least. I haven't rushed out to see the *Twilight* films, but I can't wait to see Miss Stewart in *The Runaways*.

