

JUSTICE GINSBURG TO SENATOR BUNNING: “SCREW YOU”

Mind you, Ruth Bader Ginsburg is much too polite to say it in those terms. But this story makes quite clear: one of the things that motivated Ginsburg to return to the Court so quickly and attend Obama's address to Congress was Jim Bunning's prediction of her imminent demise.

One month after her surgery for pancreatic cancer, Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg said Thursday that she expects to be on the Supreme Court for several more years. In an interview, she also vividly recalled why, on her second day back on the bench, she attended President Obama's televised speech to a joint session of Congress.

"First, I wanted people to see that the Supreme Court isn't all male," the lone female justice said of the evening event Feb. 24. "I also wanted them to see I was alive and well, contrary to that senator who said I'd be dead within nine months."

You know, I had already sort of been rooting for Bunning (in that crafty sabotage kind of way), given that his continued presence in the Senate—and especially his determination to run again in 2010—is driving Mitch McConnell crazy. And of course, having Bunning as a Republican opponent in 2010 might make that seat a pick-up opportunity.

But if Bunning's continued idiocy is going to keep a solid liberal like Justice Ginsburg going strong on the Court, more power to the asshole.