Facts about National Breast Cancer Awareness Month

BY ERIN LANE
CRUSADER FEATURES STAFF

October was Breast Cancer Awareness Month: a time for education on the disease, congratulations for survivors and mourning for victims. How much do you know about this history of the month and the disease it recognizes?

Breast Cancer Awareness Month began approximately 20 years ago, when the National Breast Cancer Coalition (NBCAM) began a website in 1996. The initial purpose of the program, initially supported by the American Academy of Family Physicians and Cancer Care America, was to attempt to increase the awareness of breast cancer among young women, both African American and Caucasian. These improvements are probably due to earlier detection and improved treatment.

According to the website www.nbcam.org, during October 1985, the second month of NBCAM, 300 million people were reached. By 1996, NBCAM reports, 17 national public service organizations, professional medical associations, and government agencies which included 11,000 local community sponsors. According www.nbcam.org, "The program depends on the efforts of NBCAM Program Leaders to reach which will help to keep people's work, play, and worship.

National awareness of breast cancer issues has increased greatly since the beginning of NBCAM, and mammography rates have climbed.

You're a Purple Person If... got soap!? (part deux)

BY LIZ MALOY
FEATURES ASS'T EDITOR

You know it is Purple Pride Day if... you eat cookies before your eight o'clock class, you hear the alma mater three million times, you eat candy and worship.

You know you’re a Purple Person if... "You know, I’d really like to see a similar campaign, we can get students to vote for us. Maybe a ‘vote environment’ campaign,” Joey responded. "I take lessons.”

You know Kev... I think you should be setting an example for all the other students. "Well, do you think if we launch a similar campaign? We’ve got soap in the bathrooms now! I really like the soap!”

You know it is Purple Pride Day if... you eat cookies before your eight o'clock class, you hear the alma mater three million times, you eat candy and worship. "Did you see Physical Plant cutting the grass today? Piracy’s a big issue,” he responded, oblivious to the room and the question. "I mean I knew the soap was coming. Of course, the last time I saw it– made a strange, last-ditch effort to convince the student body to ‘vote environment’ (Joey’s repeated attempts to find “environment” on the ballot were unsuccessful). But did the Greens really need doorknob hangers and posters to supplement the disproportionately large number of Nader/LaDuke buttons already on campus? And don’t those reams and reams of one-day-only posters seem a bit, oh, eco-unfriendly, unnecessary, wasteful?"

You know that the "wasted vote" anti-Nader argument still has many future goals. "Death rates from breast cancer have been decreasing since 1989. 54 percent of women age 40 and older reported having a mammogram within the last two years. In 1997, that number had increased to 62 percent, indicating to the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, NBCAM reports.

Among many improving trends there are still many future goals. Although many more women have been having early mammo- gram visits across the nation, NBCAM reports that “repeat screening is less common than initial screening.”

NBCAM hopes to increase the number of patients who participate in clinical trials. According to the website www.nationalbreastcancer.org and www.cancer.org, clinical trials are research studies "designed to evaluate new ways to prevent or treat cancer." The goal of this research is to find better ways to treat and prevent cancer.

In 1998, 34 percent of breast cancer patients chose to receive chemotherapy treatment. In the year 2000, it increased to 40 percent. Today, 60 percent of breast cancer patients choose chemotherapy treatment.

How about that Presidential election, eh? As we write this column—past deadline as it is—we still don’t know who has captured the White House (please forgive the limitations of the print medium, you gentle reader, you probably know for two or more days by the time this column has left your hands)."The best but your faithful correspondent, sadly, lacks ESP)."

Political conscious students such as appointed Loyola resident Joey Brocklesby ‘03 were for a loop this election, with the introduction of Pat Buchanan and Ralph Nader as third-party candidates. After observing the dominant dichotomy between the pro-establishment Democrats and the Naderistas in the naysayers, I found a tough question: “Where am I going to find a four-sided cup to fill?”

Serious, though, it was quite a toss-up for most of the students who attend school elsewhere mostly went for one of the established parties. Joey noted that the “wasted vote” anti-Nader argument doesn’t hold much water here in one-party Massachu- setts, where every vote is more or less wasted anyway.

Nader (his supporters, at least) actually left the doors with one of the strangest stories of the week. It seems as though the Campus Greens– or whoever did it– made a strange, last-ditch effort to convince the student body to “vote environment” (Joey’s repeated attempts to find “environment” on the ballot were unsuccessful). But did the Greens really need doorknob hangers and posters to supplement the disproportionate large number of Nader/LaDuke buttons already on campus? And don’t those reams and reams of one-day-only posters seem a bit, oh, eco-unfriendly, unnecessary, wasteful?

It was the day after the elections when I saw my dry-erase-board-obessed companion, who was a Florida Democrat, very upset. The number from Florida wasn’t in yet, but I was conducting a survey for my Poli-Sci class. I asked Joey what he’d like to see over the next four years—no matter who’s in the Oval Office.

I started pressing him on issues of importance—foreign policy, the environment, health care. I don’t think he really understood the question, though, so I repeated it: what sort of foreign policy should the new President conduct?

"I like the one he’s got now,” Joey responded.

"Weren’t they always in- volved?”

“Well, yeah, you’re right. But I mean getting them to speak out and call Physical Plant and wear those catchy pins. I guess when lots of students raise their voice about the same thing, someone might just listen."

"Wait, Lenny, remember? We were told that this was being done ‘in spite of what we did, not be- cause we did it’."

"Do you buy that?"

"Is the Pope atheist?"

"Well, do you think if we launch a clearer campaign? We get paper towel dispensers installed!"

"The Pope is atheist?"

"You’re a funny guy Kev, real funny."

"I take lessons."

"I KNOW IT! Seriously though, I would really like to see students speak out and speak loudly more often on issues that affect them."

"Alright…like what.?”

"You know Kev. We could just leave the SGA phone number at the end of the article and hope someone calls us or emails us."

"You know, I’d really like to see those black rails in front of Kimball removed."

"Look Kev, there’s soap in the bathrooms, Crusader sports are awesome (CONGRATULATIONS AND THANK YOU to all our sport’s teams for a great fall sea- son), and I hope people can go off campus without getting arrested… I think maybe more things can change."

"See who’s calling."

"Let’s get rid of those rails."

"Let’s find out what people want to see and get loud."

"No, McFarland— he’s declared peace on South Watertown. We know those projects, and all that. It’s an appeasement policy to- ward Mayor Mariano, but it’s working. And it’s a good thing, too. We don’t pay $32,000 per year to have some College Hill resident call us names and write angry letters about us to the newspapers."

I tried to explain to Joey that I was asking him about United States President, and that my professor was not going to accept silly answers which amount to noth- ing. Joey said, “okay, okay, I just don’t much know about foreign policy. Here, ask me another.”

What about the environment, then, I inquired of him.

"Did you see Physical Plant cutting the grass today? I tell you, those guys are dedicated to what they do. I’d say we’ve got the best environment in the Patriot League. And that new Smith Hall— that place is going to be a definite improvement. Truly worth all that money we pay to attend here. You just wait and see."

Again I put down my clipboard and looked daggers at Joey. Crime."

"Pracy’s a big issue,” he responded, oblivious to my question. "I mean I know those people on the NAPSTER cult with a full ban. Serves them right— the good music is on TRL anyway. Then there’s the thorny issue of theft from Kimball— that’s his next move, I’m sure. And they’d better be clamping down, if they keep on raising the tuition."

"You know who has captured the White House (please forgive the limitations of the print medium, you gentle reader, you probably know for two or more days by the time this column has left your hands)." The best but your faithful correspondent, sadly, lacks ESP)."

You know who has captured the White House (please forgive the limitations of the print medium, you gentle reader, you probably know for two or more days by the time this column has left your hands)." The best but your faithful correspondent, sadly, lacks ESP)."

You know who has captured the White House (please forgive the limitations of the print medium, you gentle reader, you probably know for two or more days by the time this column has left your hands)." The best but your faithful correspondent, sadly, lacks ESP)."

You know who has captured the White House (please forgive the limitations of the print medium, you gentle reader, you probably know for two or more days by the time this column has left your hands)." The best but your faithful correspondent, sadly, lacks ESP)."

You know who has captured the White House (please forgive the limitations of the print medium, you gentle reader, you probably know for two or more days by the time this column has left your hands)." The best but your faithful correspondent, sadly, lacks ESP)."

You know who has captured the White House (please forgive the limitations of the print medium, you gentle reader, you probably know for two or more days by the time this column has left your hands)." The best but your faithful correspondent, sadly, lacks ESP)."