

Everyone's a critic ASB doesn't deserve negative comments

CHELSEA CALLAS

Staff Reporter

Walking through the front doors of school the first day of Rejuvenation Week prompted me to take a deep breath. Why? Because the sign told me to. Rejuvenation Week was a very stressful week for me, but knowing our Associated Student Body wanted to help was enough to comfort me at least a little. Apparently some students didn't feel the same.

Complaints about the lunch period which wasn't the promised full hour, the scream which was "stupid" and the lack of nap time in class were some of the criticisms about the week. School can be stressful, and a week isn't going to make it all go away. That wasn't the point of Rejuvenation Week. The point was to help us handle our stress a little better and have something fun to look forward to.

We should be grateful that we have an active student body that comes up with new ways to make our time in high school a little more enjoyable. I know I complain about my stress a minimum of seven times a week, and I hear my friends complain about stress at least that much, if not

more. So what did ASB do? They planned ways to make a week more relaxing and some students did whatever they could to pick it apart.

A point of criticism was that a lunch was promised that would be an hour long and that it was cut short. The plan had been to add the 20 minute break to the 40 minute lunch and end up with an hour long lunch. But they didn't factor in that the passing periods for break wouldn't be factored into lunch, thus making lunch shorter than promised. It was a mistake, but it didn't make Rejuvenation Week a failure.

Some said that was that the No Homework Day wasn't successful because students had tests or quizzes later in the week that they had to study for so they ended up having work on Wednesday. However, there would have been more homework on top of the studying if it weren't for No Homework Wednesday. Even if teachers did give homework on Wednesday, they were asked by ASB not to, so students shouldn't direct their criticism towards ASB.

Complaints about the ten second scream and the nap/reading time, came from people who admittedly didn't

participate. Maybe if they had given it a shot, they would have found themselves feeling rejuvenated. There was a legitimate argument that there was no warning for the nap, so maybe next time an intercom announcement would be helpful for everyone to know when the nap starts.

I'm not saying Rejuvenation Week was perfect, but it didn't deserve all the criticism it received. It was a great effort.

So far this year, our ASB has put on the amazing Harry Potter-themed Spirit Week as well as a successful Canned Food Drive. Even then there were students saying these events were stupid. I suppose there are always going to be critics. I think it's good to question what's going on around you, but having an open mind to change is also very important. Sadly, it seemed as though students refused to give a new idea a chance. I guess you can say I'm a critic of all the critics.

So...for the next ASB event, try to keep an open mind and give ASB the respect they deserve. Many hours go into planning and carrying out these school events so spend your time taking advantage of them instead of complaining.

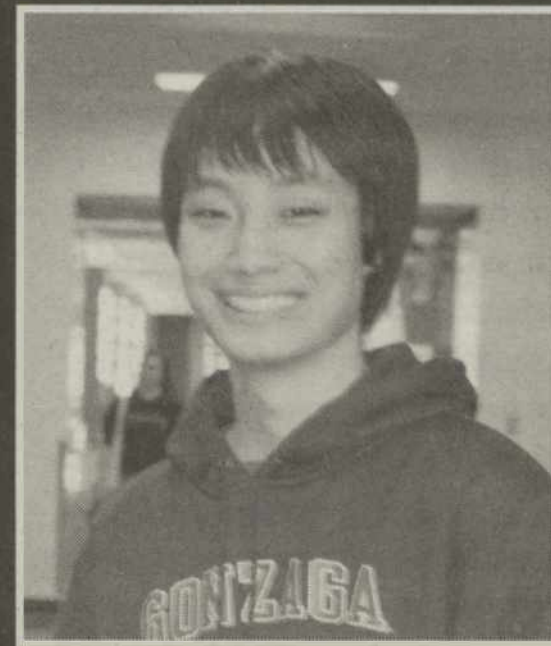


"I liked the Rejuvenation Week they planned. It was relaxing. It was good to see ASB being able to come up with creative ideas for the student body."

—Jennifer Kearns, freshman

"They definitely amped up the spirit. It seems like there are more events to get everyone involved."

—Matthew Oh, senior



STUDENTS SPEAK OUT

What is the best thing ASB has done this year?

"I like how they spend their extra time making it a better place for us to go to school. Rejuvenation Week gave people more school spirit."

—Melissa Andre, junior



"I liked the long lunch hour. The couches were very comfortable."

—Ryan McGuire, sophomore



Photos
by Malia Chong

Election update: candidates persist in primaries

ADAM HOLMES

Staff Reporter

The most exciting election since the Gore-Bush election of 2000 is rapidly becoming more intense and important. An election that began in the latter part of 2006 with over 40 eligible candidates, has been shortened to three serious candidates: two Democrats and one Republican.

Recently, candidate Mike Huckabee withdrew from the election on Mar. 4, after losing the Texas primary. Huckabee now endorses John McCain, after it became evidently clear that he would not be able to exceed the 209 delegates he won.

Arizona senator McCain is the presumptive nominee of the Republican party and continues to win primary after primary. However, as I watch him celebrate these victories, I can't help but notice that this man runs a campaign that is somewhat similar to the race run by George W. Bush.

He believes that the Iraq War should continue, is against publicly funded health care, and is for gun control. On the other hand, he does not condone torture of enemy combatants and is more concerned about the environment.

It is quite clear that this country is ready for change, and it is unclear if that change will come if McCain is elected president.

Democratic nominee and New York senator Hillary Clinton is running a very close race with fellow Democratic nominee Barack Obama. Clinton had lost 11 primaries before the Mar. 4 primaries, with the defeats threatening to end her campaign. However, on Mar. 4, Clinton won the Texas, Ohio and Rhode Island primaries. Texas was especially important state to win, and these victories kept Clinton in the race.

Clinton feels strongly about many of the issues that America feels are important, such as ending the war in Iraq, plans to address the environmental challenges America faces, and hopes to implement universal health care.

However, it bothers me that she continues to verbally attack Obama about his experience or lack thereof. The way I see it, if the man has been able to make it this far, there is no question that he is appropriate for the job.

Obama, an Illinois senator, seems to be the most popular choice, and is in a close race with Clinton. With a recent win in Wyoming, Obama

needs to continue to work hard on his campaign if he is going to defeat Clinton.

He is positive about ending the war in Iraq, believes in decreasing dependence on foreign oil, and believes global warming is a serious problem that should be confronted.

Obama seems to be taking the most flak among his opponents, especially about his middle name being Hussein (which actually means "good" or "handsome" in Arabic) and about a photo that recently surfaced that shows him in clothing that is similar to clothing worn by some terrorists (In reality, it was traditional garb that he wore on a 2006 trip to Kenya.)

I also notice that Obama is spouting the least amount of trash-talk toward his opponents. If a candidate is so popular among voters and does not spread lies about his opponent, then this speaks volumes about his character.

By the end of April, we will know whether Clinton or Obama is the Democratic nominee. Then, we will finally be able to get to the real election!

MTV influences teens with trashy shows

CHELSEA CALLAS

Staff Reporter

MTV stands for Music Television, but the music aspect of the channel is nearly non-existent: they're only in the wee hours of the morning

or subtle background to shows with no integrity and no originality. Spring Break is when the channel reveals its worst material of all.

MTV sets bad example

continued on page 7