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Hi everyone,

Hopefully by this time you have already enjoyed our Christmas Party and are well on your way to finishing your exams. Recently we elected our new ASB president Brad Deere. Brad is currently a third year in the School of Medicine and serves as his class’s president. He will take over my position in June 2013 and until then will serve as president elect. You all will have an opportunity to run for office this spring. The positions that will be available are vice president, treasurer, and secretary. Jonathan Peeples, Kurt Nelson, and Stephen Sills currently fill those roles and all of them will be graduating in May (hopefully). There will also be a number of cabinet positions, which usually includes murmur editor, medic editor, intramural chair, philanthropy chair, webmaster, and several others. My hope is for all of you to be involved in some way and continue to make this school a better place.

Cheers,
Jake Lancaster
ASB President

As you can see, there aren’t many events to report on for December. I hope that people are expanding their tacky Christmas wardrobes. There are some huge things going down in January, most notably my birthday (Jan 15), my last residency interview (Jan 18), and the Ambulance Chase party (Jan 25). If you are interested in celebrating any of these, please feel free to contact me. By now everyone has probably heard of the School Cup. I hope it will be as fun for all of you as it has been for me. There are lots of philanthropy events going on as part of the competition, so be sure to participate in those. Good luck to everyone, and have a great Christmas!

Cookies with Santa at the Jackson Zoo
Dec. 8 @ 9:00am-1:00pm

I’ve read the zoo’s event description for this, and I’m literally freaking out. I have no idea if the children will be having cookies with a regular human Santa or if the zoo has found some kind of animal Santa. I’m picturing a panda and an orangutan in my head, but that’s purely speculative and 99% incorrect. Milk and a sugar cookie are provided with regular zoo admission.

Christmas for the Birds at the Mississippi Museum of Natural Science
Dec. 8 @ 10:00am-12:00pm

In classic government fashion, children will learn how to make “natural ornaments” that “help feed the birds during the winter months.” Note that your children will only be feeding the weak and short-sighted birds that did not stock up for winter. Without your children, birds would not go extinct.

Ballet Magnificat’s Snow Queen at Thalia Mara Hall
Dec. 14 – 16

The legendary Kathy Thibodeaux will be featured as the Snow Queen in this Hans Christian Anderson classic. The last ballet I went to was The Princess and the Pea. I took a nice girl to it, and we happened upon ASB Treasurer Kurt Nelson who acted as a chaperone. It was a fantastic tale of love and high maintenance women. Shortly thereafter I was broken up with. I very much recommend ballets.

Unburied Treasurers: Greatest Hits at the Mississippi Museum of Art
Dec 18 @ 6:00pm

Glennray Tutor paints gumballs and canned goods better than anyone I’ve ever seen. He’ll be talking about his technique. Other speakers include John T. Edge and Marta Szlubowska. For those of you who are not familiar with the long and torturous history between John Edge and Marta Szlubowska, I’ll just say that watching their interactions is both beautiful and tragic.

Screen on the Green at Mississippi Museum of Art
Dec. 20 @ 6:00pm

This month’s film is Gremlins. I only seen brief clips of the movie. I did, however, play the Nintendo game for four hours one evening in first grade. I couldn’t get past the third level, so I have no idea how the movie ends.

A Night of Hope with Joel Osteen at MS Coliseum
Jan. 4 @ 7:30pm

Joel Osteen is a controversial figure. I don’t know the man, so I won’t tread that ground. I would like to point out that his wife, Victoria, has crazy eyes. Women don’t normally scare me, but if Victoria Osteen teamed up with Nancy Grace against me, I’d probably be one of those guys you read about who run away to Idaho to live in a cave for 50 years.

Jonathan Peeples, M4
ASB Vice-President
The School Cup is an annual, campus-wide competition at the University of Mississippi Medical Center among the six schools: Dentistry, Medicine, Health-Related Professions, Nursing, Pharmacy, and Graduate Studies. Each school can earn points through various activities throughout the year. The school with the most points at the end of the academic year receives the coveted School Cup.

How do we earn points?

Intramural Sports – The winner of each intramural sport receives 25 points for its school. This includes male flag football, female flag football, male basketball, female basketball, volleyball, soccer, dodgeball, and anything else that the ASB intramural sports chair decides to schedule.

Philanthropy – Each school may sponsor one philanthropy event each year that can be counted toward points for the School Cup. The event must be a competition that all schools can participate in. The winner of School Cup points is determined on a per capita basis. The winner of each event gets 100 points, and points are distributed proportionally after that. The ASB Philanthropy Officer may promote additional events at his or her discretion.

Example: If the School of Pharmacy sponsored a can drive, and SHRP (with 1000 students) brought 1000 cans while the School of Graduate Studies brought 500 cans (with 250 students), the School of Graduate would win 100 points (2 cans per student) whereas SHRP would win 50 points (1 can per student or half of 2 cans per student). The School of Pharmacy may declare SHRP the winner because they brought the most cans, but the School of Graduate Studies would win the most School Cup points.

Party T-shirts – The school that buys the most party t-shirts per capita for each party will receive 25 School Cup points.

ESPN College Football Pick Em – Each week’s winner of ESPN College Football Pick Em will receive 5 points for his or her school. The overall winner will receive 25 points.

ESPN Bracket Challenge – The winner will receive 25 points for his or her school.

Halloween Costume Contest – The winner of the Halloween party costume contest will get 25 points for his or her school.

The School Cup winner will be announced on the last Friday of April. A ceremony with the presentation of the school cup will follow shortly thereafter.

Hi – I’m Brad. I’m pumped about being the upcoming ASB President. UMMC is full of incredibly smart, dedicated, and talented individuals. I am honored to have this opportunity.

About me:
- I constantly send JFC Volunteer emails – almost weekly. You should volunteer.
- I have three younger siblings who are all cooler than me.
- I attended Emory University for undergraduate and MC for graduate school.
- I occasionally listen to dubstep – don’t think I’ve ever told anyone that.
- I like bullet points.
- I live in Fondren with my dog and roommates, and I have a girlfriend that somehow puts up with me.

I feel like I’m writing a blog. All I’m missing are Instagram photos of the food that I’m currently eating.

On a more serious note: ASB makes wonderful things happen. Just look at what our current leadership has been facilitating recently: blood drive, the infamous School Cup, Batson Toy Drive, Hungry Games, t-shirt sales, Claus Ball, intramurals, the most exciting College Pick’em ever, The Murmur, an awesome updated website, and much more. Start thinking about how you want to get involved on campus and contact me. I’m open to all ideas and very excited about what we can accomplish together. E-mail/call/text/write me anytime about anything – even things like, “What’s up with the clock in the Student Health hallway that is always broken?” I don’t know. I’m trying to find out.

Enjoy the holidays! Thank you for allowing me to serve as 2013-2014 ASB President.

Brad Deere, M3
The M2s did not have an article in last month’s Murmur because I would have wasted your time reading and my time writing, as there was simply nothing exciting to say…. BUT…… if there was one thing our class agreed upon right now, it would be “WHY is there so much going on – the days are packed, Christmas is coming, tests are coming before that, and now we are registering for STEP 17” CRAZINESS — craziness, I tell you.

Backtracking a bit, here are the newsworthy items for our class:

- We finished our second test week early in November, enjoyed a little bit (or a lot, whatever the case may be) of freedom, and now we are only 2 weeks away from our next one, which starts December 17.
- Thanksgiving was next, and our class had the second annual covered dish Thanksgiving Feast for the members of our class and their families. We had around 50 people for the organized Thanksgiving Feast.
- Our class, for being selected as a National Delegate for the Organization of Student Representatives (OSR) of the American Association of Medical Colleges (AAMC).
- Lastly (but of EPIC proportion), November to our class is better known as “Movember” – the Prostate Cancer Awareness month, when our guys grow the best mustaches they can muster and compete with the M1 class guys for “stache” awards. Never fear, the girls have roles too, in organizing fundraisers for money to donate to prostate cancer research (and supervising the crazy testosterone power trips.) The M2 girls organized, baked, and sold yummy treats to raise money. Plus, our class held the second annual Movember fundraiser night at Sal and Mookies, where the restaurant donated 10% of anyone’s tabs that night at Sal and Mookies, where the restaurant donated 10% of anyone’s tabs for the guys’ staches. And it WAS, without a shadow of doubt, the best entertainment we will have all year, complete with a video made by our own M2 “Mo Bros.” (For those of you who need a laugh, visit YouTube and search “Inside Scoop: The Mo Bros” – I promise this will be a 6 minutes of YouTube WELL worth your time!) Anyway, the M2 guys swept most of the awards, except a few went to M1 guys, including the “Man of Movember” award, but I will leave all those details to the M1s and not steal their thunder…… Suffice it to say, the “Man of Movember,” Joey Griggs, deserved that and more…… nicely done…..
- BIG THANK-YOUs to our Movember judges: Drs. Correia and Brown, Ms. Kim Dallas, & Mrs. Virginia Covington AND to our emcees, Emily Brandon and Allison Pace!

Movember culminated last week with an M1 & M2 awards ceremony for the guys’ staches. And it WAS, without a shadow of doubt, the best entertainment we will have all year, complete with a video made by our own M2 “Mo Bros.” (For those of you who need a laugh, visit YouTube and search “Inside Scoop: The Mo Bros” – I promise this will be a 6 minutes of YouTube WELL worth your time!) Anyway, the M2 guys swept most of the awards, except a few went to M1 guys, including the “Man of Movember” award, but I will leave all those details to the M1s and not steal their thunder…… Suffice it to say, the “Man of Movember,” Joey Griggs, deserved that and more…… nicely done…..

- BIG THANK-YOUs to our Movember organizers, Emily Brandon and Allison Pace for their continued support of us and to Meagan Carpenter and Allison Pace for organizing the bake sale!!!!

Merry Christmas from the M2s!

Jennie Thomas, M2

The Mo Bros” – I promise this will be a 6 minutes of YouTube WELL worth your time!}

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1. This singer and songwriter from New Jersey produced ten consecutive top-ten hits from 1984 through 1987. Who was he?

2. Identify the five singers who made up the Spice Girls, one of Britain’s most/least popular groups...

3. Which Ohio-born inventor held over 1,000 patents, including one for the invention of the motion-picture projector?

4. The race of central African herdsmen called the Watusi, or Tutsi, are considered to hold what statistical extreme?

5. Of the chemical elements between #95 and 100, three are named for humans. Name the three.

The tallest girl in the world ever recorded was 8 feet 2 inches tall and died at the young age of 17.

The average human with a full head of hair contains between 85,000 to 150,000 hairs.

Only humans cry because of feelings.

Mohammad is the most common birth name in the world.

It takes about 7 minutes for the average person to fall asleep.

You can give change for a dollar in 293 different coin variations.

The construction on the Parisian Notre Dame Cathedral began in 1015 A.D. and it took over 400 years to complete. It was completed in 1439 A.D.

Almonds are members of the rose flower family or rosaceae family. The peach is also a member of the rose family.

The peach is also a member of the rose family. Name the three.

The construction on the Parisian Notre Dame Cathedral began in 1015 A.D.

1.800.325.4172 www.macm.net
Another UMMC Intramural Flag football season is in the books. There was tremendously fierce competition amongst the 17 teams during the 10 week season, with the playoffs concluding on a chilly Sunday before Halloween. The playoff rundown goes as follows:

Palpation Nation (PT) faced off against the Dysfunction-al Divas (OT) for the Women’s Championship game. It was a hard fought game by both squads that went into overtime with a score of 0-0. During overtime, the Nation intercepted the first pass attempt by the Divas and had great field position. On the 3rd play of their drive, the Nation pulled off the ol’ Statue of Liberty Play to score the winning TD.

In the men’s title game, the PT3’s squared off to play the third year dental student team, Kibbles N’ Vicks (may have to edit). The PT3 team jumped out to a quick 6-0 lead and extended it to 13-0 in the second half with the dental students scoring later in the game to make it a 13-7 final.

Congratulations to the Women of Palpation Nation and the men of PT3. We want to thank everyone who participated in flag football this year and hope everyone enjoyed themselves.

Volleyball is currently underway, while basketball will start up once we return from Christmas break.

A. Ryves Moore, M4
Intramural Director

The Other Country

“I see the other country. I see the other side. Do not be afraid of this earthly city. Do not be afraid when the pharaohs nigh…I was a blind man stumbling but now I see. I was blind, blind but now I see.”

~Burlap to Cashmere

The elderly lady whom I typed an H&P on now sees the other country. She passed around 0015 today, while I was asleep. I prayed for her to go quickly and be relieved of suffering. Her whole family was here at this small country hospital: loving daughter and supportive son-in-law, wide-eyed grandchildren, estranged son hoping for one more chance to make it right with momma, concerned younger sister/more like a daughter/friend, and those friends closest to the family. Even when I thought I’d seen everyone before, there’d be an unfamiliar yet strikingly similar face among the huddle.

Last night, the country doc who is my preceptor and I had to part the sea of people to squeeze in to get a good look at «momma.» Sweet poor lady. Eyes closed and sunken, mouth open with lips curled in over toothless gums, skin tented, her frail frame lay in the stark white sheets. I feel her pulse—tachycardia at 128. Her every effort working to blow off the CO2, her body desperately attempts to compensate for the metabolic acidosis from acute on chronic renal failure. No, we didn’t get blood gases—no need for them, really (except my curiosity of course). This single hospital floor with 30-odd beds functions as ICU, step-down unit, and your average nursing floor all in one.

But she was anuric, not a drop, not even a dark drop of urine in her catheter waiting to fall with gravity into the dry canister. But then, «Momma» was a fighter. Two years ago, she coded at this same hospital and walked out a few days later…well maybe a week or more. I don’t know those details, I know that at the end, we were —robbing Peter to pay Paul, — according to the doc. That is, giving fluids to replenish her kidneys, and pulling some fluid back with 10 mg, then 20, of Lasix to try to clear her lungs. She got 2 packed red cell transfusions two weeks ago to improve her low cell count from myelodysplastic syndrome (MDS), and at least 3 more while here, along with several liters of saline. She had the odds against her, for sure. On top of the cancer-like bone marrow dysplasia of MDS, add congestive heart failure, COPD (a mix of asthma and emphysema), renal failure, Alzheimer’s dementia, likely protein-energy deficiency if not calorie-deficiency.

One thing is certain: she had many people who loved her. That hospital room packed to the brim and spilling over was a testimony to her legacy.

Lindsey Berg

School of Nursing

Club Med Update: Officer Election Results

President: Bronwyn LeBlanc
President-elect: David Steele
Community Service Chair: Nancy Salloum Harrison
ACP Associates Council Representative: Wes Aldred
M1 Class Representatives: Ralph Abraham, Henry Boler, Chris Tucker
M2 Class Representatives: Amber Bailey, Khang Dang, Billy Jefferson, John Ross, Jennie Thomas
M3 Class Representatives: Jake Bishop, Rob Gatting, Maureen Offiah, Darren Scoogg
M4 Class Representatives: Joel Shores, Julia Thompson

Habitat for Humanity
On behalf of the School of Health Related Professions, we would like to thank everyone for participating in our Holiday Toy Drive for Batson. With everyone’s help, we were able to generate 817 toys! This demonstrates an unbelievable amount of generosity and will make a lot of children happy during the holidays! Thanks again!

The winner of the school cup points goes to the School of Graduate Studies, who raised 331 toys. With a total of 167 students in their school, they generated 1.98 toys per student. Congratulations Graduate School and thanks for all of your hard work! The remaining results are as follows:

1st place -- School of Graduate Studies -- 331 toys/167 students -- 1.98 toys per student for 100 School Cup points
2nd place -- School of Health Related Professions -- 406 toys/385 students -- 1.05 toys per student for 53 School Cup points
3rd place -- School of Pharmacy -- 60 toys/143 students -- 0.42 toys per student for 21 School Cup points
4th place -- School of Medicine -- 28 toys/521 students -- 0.05 toys per student for 3 School Cup points
5th place -- School of Nursing -- 10 toys/310 students -- 0.03 toys per student for 2 School Cup points
6th place -- School of Dentistry

Again, this toy drive was wildly successful thanks to all of the schools! We would like to extend the opportunity for representatives from all of the schools to go with us on Wednesday at 1:00 PM to present the toys to Batson. We will meet in the SHRP lobby and proceed from there. If you are interested in going, please shoot me an email at caholmes@umc.edu to let me know and we will facilitate everything from there.

Thanks guys and congratulations to everyone! Happy studying!

Clarence Holmes, SPT
It’s Christmas!! It’s Christmas!! It’s Christmas!!

Okay...not quite. But it’s definitely in the air. Amid all the books, projects, clinical duties, or whatever is befalling you, it is so there. JUST BELIEVE.

Change of subject: I consider myself very artsy. I used to paint some. I took a pottery class. I like music. I like words. So tonight, when I happened upon the movie The Artist, I legitimately thought I would be totally into it. The Artist, for those of you who are in a little thing called school and aren’t aware, is a silent, black-and-white film that came to theaters a year or two ago. Apparently it’s about an actor and it won lots of awards. I remember when the movie came out; I was much too busy with school to go see it, but I knew I would be completely entranced by the romanticism of it all. Tonight, all I had to do was write this article. I was so ready.

Of it all. Tonight, all I had to do was pen a movie review. I was so ready.

But within 2 minutes of starting the movie, I was completely lost. I don’t know if you realize this, but in a silent movie, watching the dialogue, or even just hearing words have been spoken on screen, is a completely different experience. So tonight, when I happened upon the movie The Artist, I thought I would be totally into it. The Artist, for those of you who are in a little thing called school and aren’t aware, is a silent, black-and-white film that came to theaters a year or two ago. Apparently it’s about an actor and it won lots of awards. I remember when the movie came out; I was much too busy with school to go see it, but I knew I would be completely entranced by the romanticism of it all. Tonight, all I had to do was write this article. I was so ready.

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Crystal Walley has always loved puttering in the garden, playing with her pets and spending time with family.

But the activities have new meaning in the wake of a West Nile virus infection that paralyzed and nearly killed the Wayne County mother of two. “You don’t appreciate all the little things until they are taken away,” she says.

Now back on her feet, Walley is forever grateful for the groundbreaking discoveries being made at Methodist Rehab’s Center for Neuroscience and Neurological Recovery. Center scientists were the first to link West Nile virus to a polio-like paralysis, and Walley says the expertise of renowned researcher Dr. Art Leis helped save her life.

“There’s not another in the world that can compare to him,” she said. “He truly loves what he does, and he is darn good at it.”