MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

01/14: Risks and Prototypes

The Capstone Experience

Dr. Wayne Dyksen

Department of Computer Science and Engineering Michigan State University

Spring 2013



Risks and Prototypes

≻Risks

Prototypes

Identifying Risks

- What You Don't
 - Know
 - Understand
 - Know How to Do
- Normally
 - Major Project Features
 - "Showstoppers"
- Varies From
 - Not Familiar With But (Probably) Can Learn to
 - Absolutely No Idea How to Do It

What are you worried about?

What should you be worried about?

Example Risks

Including but not limited to...

- Key Application Features
- Hardware Systems
- Software Systems
- Development / Programming Environments
- Programming Languages
- Etc...

Prioritizing Risks

Classify Difficulty

High Very Hard, No Idea How to Do

Medium

Low Not Hard, Probably Doable

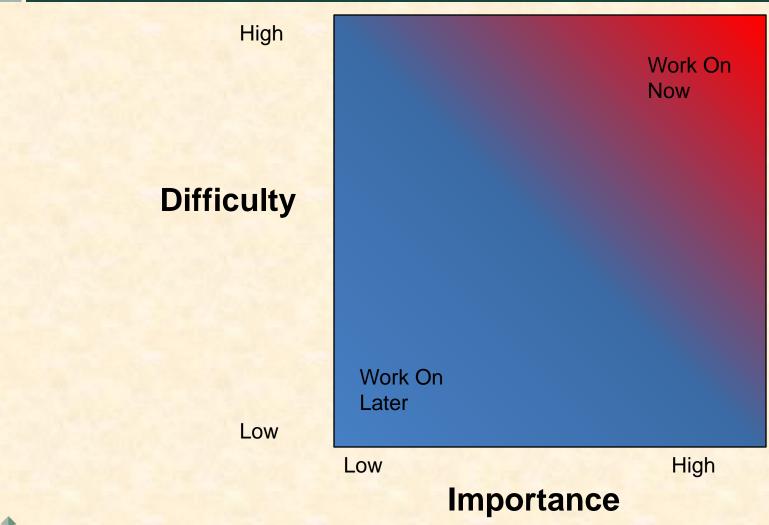
Classify Importance

High Showstopper, Must Have

Medium

Low Not Vital, Nice to Have

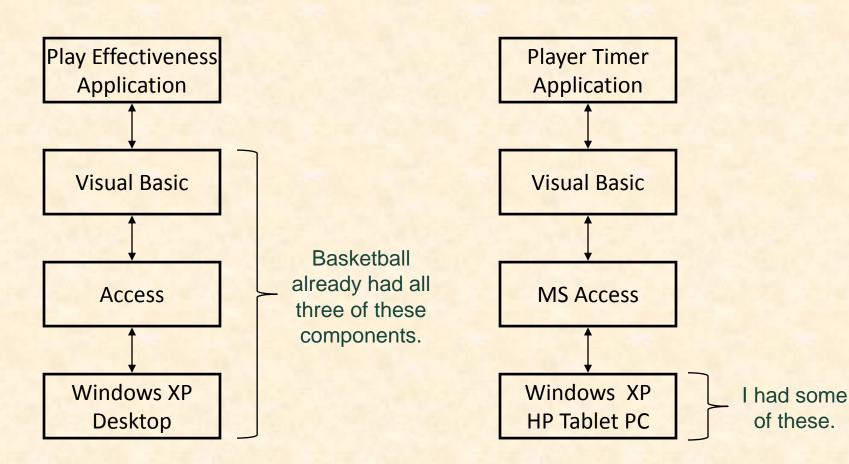
Prioritizing Risks



Case Studies: Basketball Apps

- Play Effectiveness
 - Determine Effectiveness of Plays
 - Record All Plays with Results
 - Produce Reports of Effectiveness
- Player Timer
 - Keep Track of Player Times
 - Record Minutes Played and Rested
 - On the Bench, During the Game

Basketball Apps Architectures



Basketball Apps Risks

- What SDK should I use?
- How do I program in Visual Basic?
- How do I make a GUI in VB?
- How do I interface VB with Access?
 - Create/Open/Save a Database?
 - Read/Write Records?
 - Traverse Records?
- How do I do clocks in Windows?
 - Game Clock?
 - Wall Clock?

How would you classify these risks?

Mitigating Risks

- Use Existing Resources
 - Including But Not Limited To
 - Product Demos
 - Book Sample Code
 - Downloadable Examples
 - Wizards
 - o Etc...
 - Test Drive
 - o Install
 - Compile
 - Extend
 - o Etc...
- Build Prototypes
 - Single Purpose
 - Quick-and-Dirty

Nota Bene:

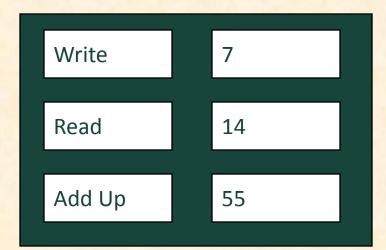
- 1. Check license if including in project.
- 2. Document.
- 3. Inform client.



Basketball Apps Risk Mitigation

- Game Clock
 - Start /Stop
 - Counts Down
 - By Minutes:Seconds
- Handling Access Records
 - Write Number
 - Read Number
 - Add Up Numbers





The Capstone Experience

Your Risks?

- Team Auto-Owners
- Team Boeing
- Team Dow
- Team EA
- Team GM
- Team Meijer
- Team Mozilla
- Team MSUFCU
- Team Spectrum Health
- Team TechSmith
- Team Urban Science
- Team Whirlpool

What are your risks?
Former Capstone Teams

- Men's Basketball
- Ford



Risks and Prototypes



> Prototypes

Prototypes

- Developed
 - Early
 - Rapidly
- Implement Subset of the Requirements
- Done for Variety of Reasons
- Are Not Finished Goods
- "Hacking" (Good Sense)

Why? Answer Questions

Help Determine...

- Specifications
 - Functional
 - Design
 - Technical
- Usability
- How Existing Code Works
- Programming Languages
- Development Environments
- Operating Environments
- What to Panic About
- Etc...

The Capstone Experience



Why? Determine Schedule

Determine how long it will take to...

- ...learn the new programming language.
- ...learn the development environment.
- ...learn the existing code.
- ...convert the existing code.
- ...convert the existing database.
- ...get libraries working.
- ...deploy the application.
- Etc....



Why? Reduce Risk

- Operability
 - How do we make a game clock?
 - Where do we store the data?
- Interoperability
 - How does the game clock work with other tablets?
 - How do the tablets all write to the same database?
- Scalability
 - Will the game clock propagate in real time?
 - Will the database engine keep up?
- Reliability
 - What happens if the clock tablet dies?
 - What happens if the database tablet dies?
- Etc-Ability...



Speed (to Write)

- Critical
- 2-3 Day Tasks
- Use Whatever Works
 - RAD Languages
 - SDK's
 - IDE's
 - Design Tools
 - Wizards
 - Sample Code
 - Etc...
- Stop When Questions Answered

Tradeoffs: Speed (to Write) vs...

- Speed vs Best Practices
 - Testing
 - Documentation
 - Security
 - Software Engineering
 - Usability
 - Performance
 - Coding Standards
 - User Interface Standards
 - Using Real Data
 - Etc...
- Hence, Normally Not Appropriate in Final Deliverable

Challenge/Danger

- "Hack" Solution
 - It works.
 - It's *a* way to do something.

VS

Often My Biggest Frustration

- "Correct" Solution
 - It works.
 - It's the *"right"* way to do something.

 (There may be more than one "right" way to do something.)

Basketball Prototypes Case Studies

- Play Effectiveness
- Player Timer
- Radio Stats
- Real Time Play Stats
- Plus/Minus

Play Effectiveness App

- Functional Specifications
 - Determine Effectiveness of Plays
 - Record All Plays with Results
 - Produce Reports of Effectiveness
 - Each Play
 - o# of Success / # of Attempts
- Design Specifications?
- Technical Specifications?

Initial Meeting with Video Coordinator

I Learned...

- Done After Game
 - On Desktop Computer
 - From DVR
- Lots of Plays (~ 200) in Play Book
- ~60-80 Plays Run Per Game
- Plays Categorized
 - Early Offense 1,2
 - Offense 1,2
 - Special Situations 1,2 (i.e., Out of Bounds)
- Overwhelming

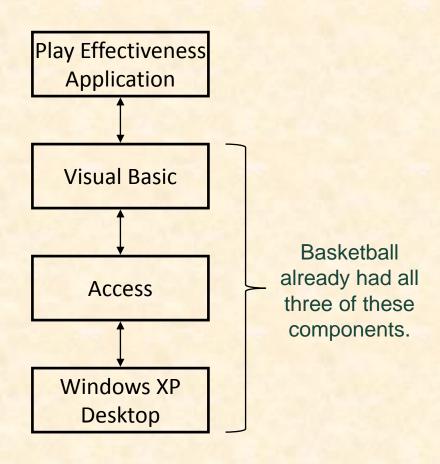
(i.e., Fast Breaks)

(i.e., Half Court Plays)

Can you relate?

The Business **Processes**

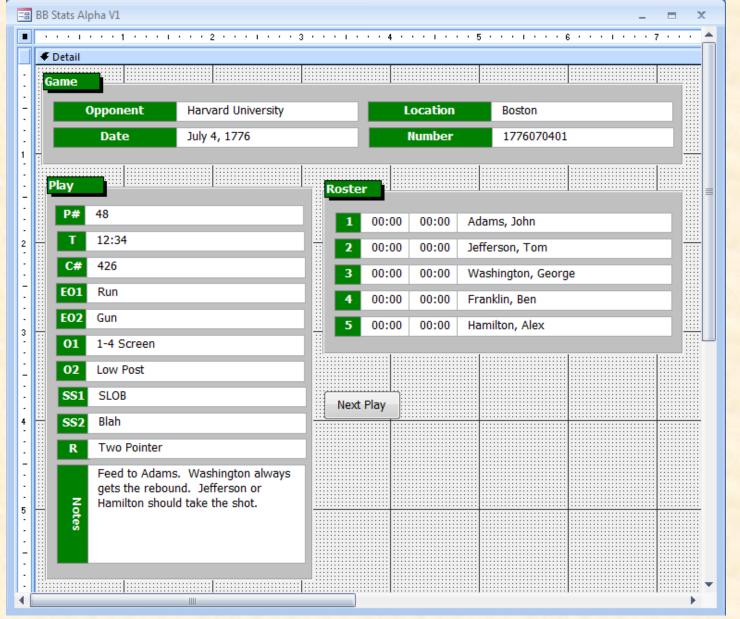
Play Effectiveness Architecture



Risks

- Learning Basketball Business Processes
- Programming in Visual Basic
- Making a GUI in VB
- Interfacing VB with Access
 - Creating/Opening/Saving a Database
 - Reading/Writing Records
 - Traversing Records
- Generating Reports in Access
- Etc...





BB Stats AV1

Fields

- P# Play Number
- T Time
- C# Clip Number
- EO Early Offense
- O Offense
- SS Special Situations
- R Result

Nota Bene

- Just Screen Layout
- No Code (Underneath)
- Never Have All Entries Filled at Once

26

What I Learned From AV1

(1 of 2)

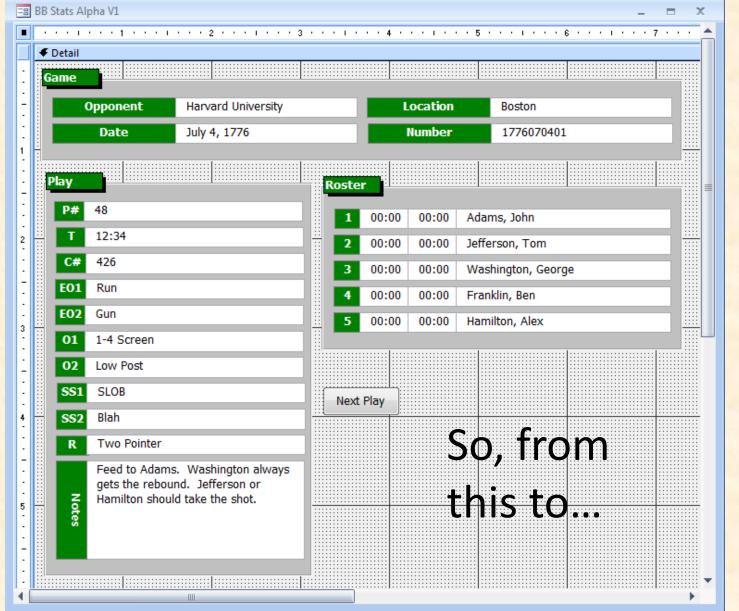
- Wanted to Identify Plays Within a Possession
- Plays Categorized Series / Set
 - Set is Variation on Series ("Parameterized Plays")
 - E.g.
 - Series: Thumbs
 - Sets: Up, Down, Circle
 - Plays: Thumbs Up, Thumbs Down, Thumbs Circle
 - 1, 2 Notation
 - O EO1 = Early Offense Series
 - EO2 = Early Offense Set
 - ST (Special Teams) Missing

Huge Impact On Design

What I Learned From AV1

(2 of 2)

- Results Coded
 - XN Missed N Pointer (X1, X2, X3)
 - ON Made N Pointer (O1, O2, O3)
 - FF Foul on the Floor
 - TO Time Out
 - Etc...
- Wanted to Record Notes on Defense
- Didn't Care About
 - Player Times
 - Video Clip Number (C#)



BB Stats AV1

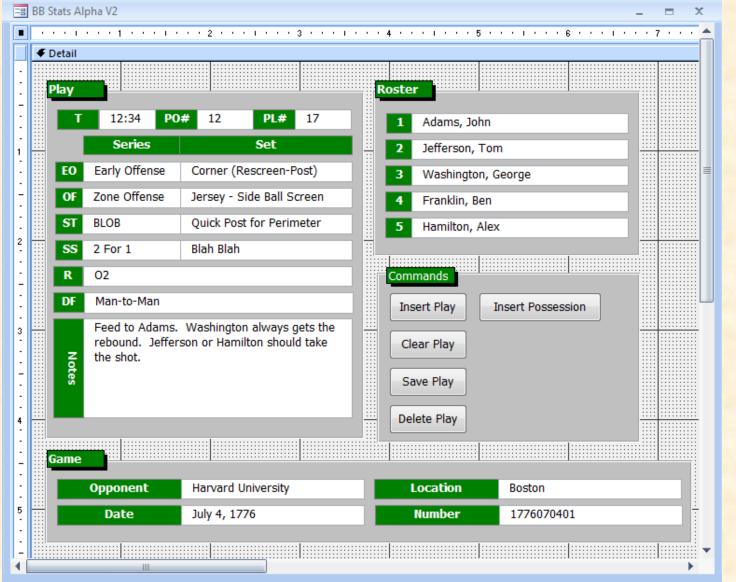
Fields

- P# Play Number
- T Time
- C# Clip Number
- EO Early Offense
- O Offense
- SS Special Situations
- R Result

Nota Bene

- Just Screen Layout
- No Code (Underneath)
- Never Have All Entries Filled at Once

29



BB Stats AV2

Fields

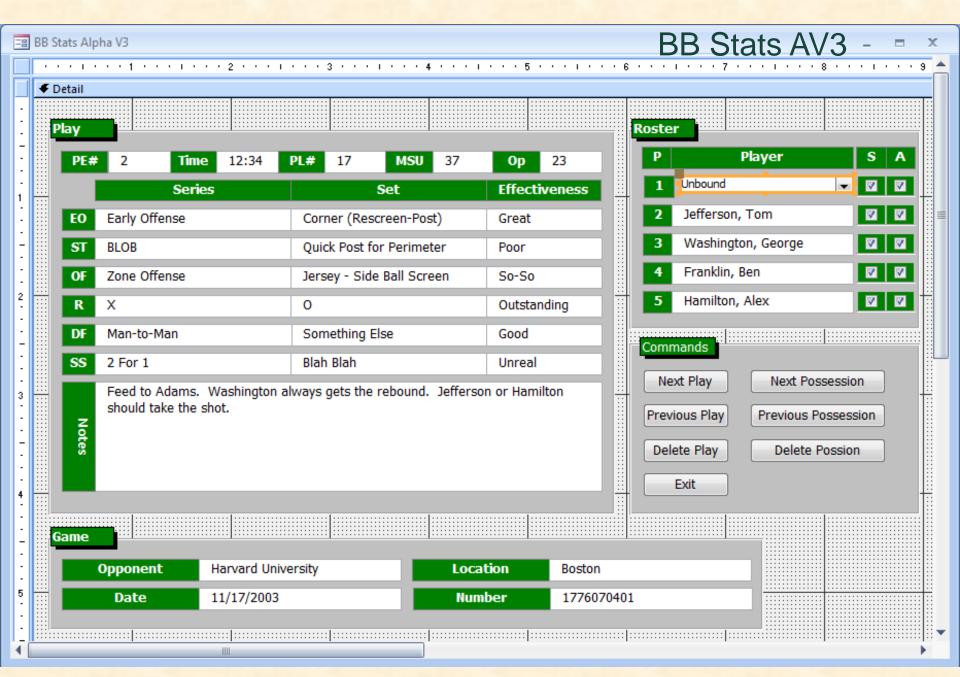
- PO#
 Possession Number
- PL# Play Number
- SS
 Special Situations
- DF Defense

Nota Bene

- Just Screen Layout
- No Code (Underneath)
- Would NOT Have Entries in All Fields

What I Learned From AV2

- Wanted to Grade Effectiveness of Plays
- Wanted to Record Player Steals and Assists (Remember this...)
- Needed to Navigate Plays and Possessions



What I Learned From AV3

- Wanted...
 - Grades to Be A, B, C, D, F
 - Results to Be X1, O1, X2, O2,...
 - Results Associated With Players
 - Series/Set Combined ("Thumbs Up" Rather Than "Thumbs", "Up")
 - To Record Player Rebound
- Will be used by...
 - Video Coordinator, GAs, and Managers
 - Very Familiar with DVR Controls
- Did NOT Want to Record Player Steals or Assists





BB Stats
Beta 1

First Version With Code

34

What I Learned From Beta 1

- Entering a Play
 - Some Things Calculated Automatically
 - Play/Possession Number
 - Score
 - Most Things Entered With Mouse Via Pull-Down Menus
 - Series / Set
 - o Result
 - But Time Entered With Keyboard Via Typing Numbers
- Need
 - Mouse-Only Input
 - Easy Way to Adjust Clock



BB Stats
Beta 2

Still Not Much Implemented

36



BB Stats V1.0

Basketball Prototypes Case Studies

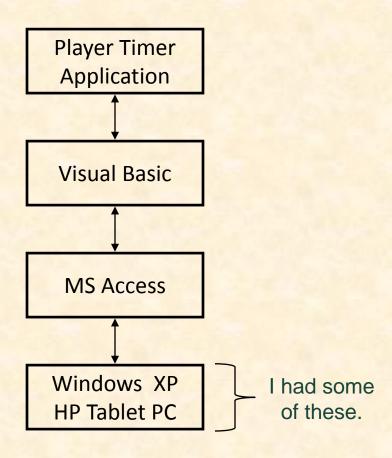
- ✓ Play Effectiveness
- Player Timer
- Radio Stats
- Real Time Play Stats
- Plus/Minus

Player Timer App

- Keep Track of Player Times
- For Each Player Record
 - Minutes Played
 - Game Clock Time
 - Consecutive & Total
 - Minutes Rested
 - Wall Clock Time
 - Consecutive
- Must
 - Be Usable on the Bench, During the Game
 - Be Portable and Not Require Electrical Outlet
 - Feel Like a Pen and a Clipboard



Player Timer App



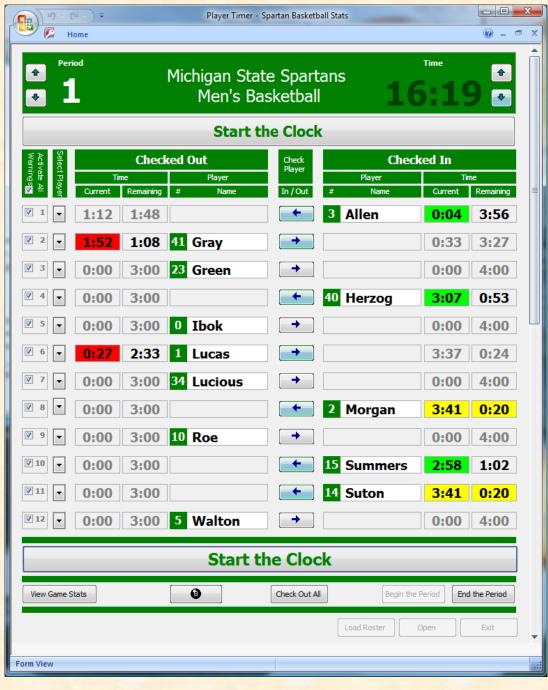
Risks

- Learning Basketball Processes
- Implementing Clocks in Windows?
 - Game Clock
 - Wall Clock
- Very Limited Screen Real Estate
- Computing and Displaying Cumulative Times
- Hidden Risk ("Danger Will Robinson!")

Player Timer Development

- Knew Exactly What They Wanted, So...
- Designed "Final" Version
 - User Interface
 - Data Base Schema
 - Etc...
- Coded "Final" Version
- Lab Tested "Final" Version
- Field Tested "Final" Version
 - At a Scrimmage
 - Totally and Completely Unusable
- Scrapped "Final" Version UI and Started Over

Huge Mistake!



Player Timer

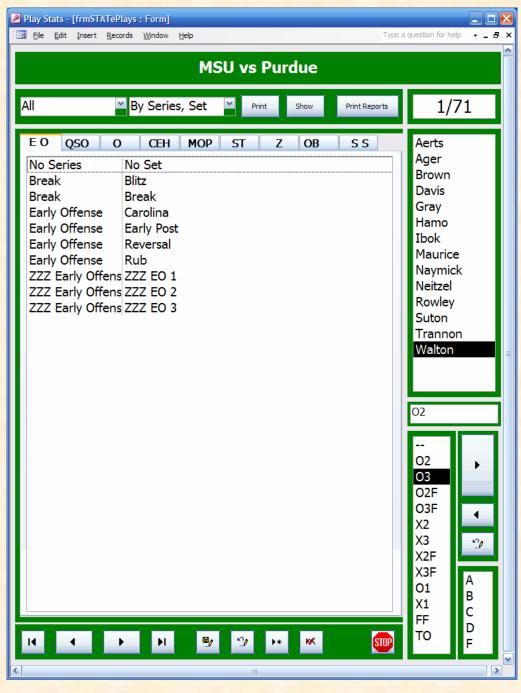
Software Updates

- Enable Clock Adjustments (While Clock Stopped)
- Enable Check In/Out By Touching
 - Check In/Out Button
 - Player Name
 - Player Slot
- Allow > 5 Players Checked In (While Clock Stopped)
- Enable Pending Check In (While Clock Running)
- Eliminate All Modal Dialog Boxes

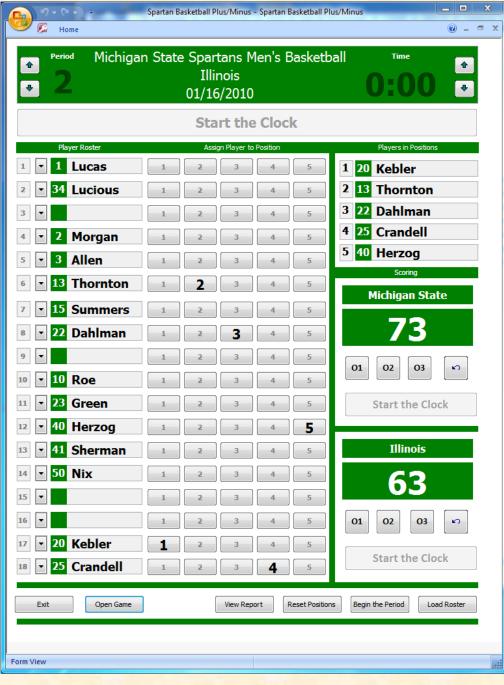
Basketball Prototypes Case Studies

- ✓ Play Effectiveness
- ✓ Player Timer
- Radio Stats
- Real Time Play Stats
- Plus/Minus





Real Time Play Stats



Plus/Minus

Your Prototypes?

- Team Auto-Owners
- Team Boeing
- Team Ford
- Team GE Aviation
- Team Google
- Team Meijer
- Team Mozilla
- Quicken Loans
- Team Spectrum Health
- Team TechSmith
- Team Urban Science
- Team Whirlpool



Risks and Prototypes



✓ Prototypes

What's ahead?

(1 of 3)

- Team Status Report Presentations
 - PowerPoint Template

The key word is "status".

- Due Midnight, Tuesday, January 22
- Email to Dr. D.
 - Subject: Team <Company Name>: Status Report
 Subject: Team Auto-Owners: Status Report
 - Attachment: team-<company-name>-status-report-presentation.ppt
 Attachment: team-urban-science-statue-report-presentation.ppt
- Dr. D. Will Combine Into Single PowerPoint
 - To Speed Things Up During Meeting
 - Do NOT Modify Master Slide Page
- Each Team Presents
 - Using Dr. D.'s Laptop
 - At Most 5 Minutes (Rehearse Timing)
 - Single or Multiple Presenters (Your Choice)

What's ahead?

(2 of 3)

- All-Hands Meetings
 - W, 01/16: Schedule and Teamwork
 - M, 01/21: MLK Day, No Meeting
 - W, 01/23: Team Status Reports
 - M, 01/28: Team Project Plan Presentations
 - W, 01/30: Team Project Plan Presentations
 - M, 02/04: Team Project Plan Presentations
 - W, 02/06: Team Project Plan Presentations
 - M, 02/11: Resume Writing and Interviewing
 - W, 02/13: Creating and Giving Presentations
 - M, 02/18: Alpha Presentations



What's ahead?

(3 of 3)

Project Plan Presentations

- PowerPoint Template
 - Download Now
 - Read the Read Me Slide (Over and Over and Over...)
- Submission
 - Both Project Plan Document and PowerPoint Slide Deck
 - Due Midnight, Sunday, January 27
 - See Submission Instructions in Template
- Presenting
 - 3 Teams Per Meeting Over 2 Meetings
 - Schedule Posted Sunday Evening
 - Strict 15 Minute Time Limit
 - Use Team Member Laptop
 - Bring Power Cord
 - Test In Meeting Room (in Advance)
 - Rehearse
 - 5% of Final Grade
 - Business Casual Dress
- Formal Team Photos
 - Immediately Following Meeting
 - In Capstone Lab

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

01/16: Schedule and Teamwork

The Capstone Experience

Dr. Wayne Dyksen
Department of Computer Science and Engineering
Michigan State University
Spring 2013

