A note from your newsletter

Well it's about time you resurrected me!

For almost three years I've been forgotten, lost in the memories of marine science department-goers, stuck in the annals of copy machine history (maybe that's why you always get a jam in area 5...).

Oh, the pain! The angst of dormancy!

Like a cyst longing for release from the suffocation of anoxic sediments, a water parcel awaiting the warp of an Ekman spiral, a quartz grain searching for a bed in which to lie and metamorphose, and like a sodium ion yearning for that perfect chloridite companionship, I've waited. And waited. Where's the love? Where's the respect?

Sigh ... OK, I feel better now.

Please excuse that cathartic spew of emotion. I've just missed you guys. I really am glad to be back, and just so you know, I plan to visit you monthly so I can give you the departmental updates, publish whatever's on your mind, and basically serve as another forum for your intelligent meaningless discussions (is there always a distinction?). I just hope my editor doesn't get so consumed by her wretched thesis that she fails to publish me on time. I know how she works, though - the more she has to do, the more she actually gets done. Then again, the more help she has, the better I'll turn out. In other words, I welcome all submissions - the more you submit, the better I look and feel.

In my past life, I was a lot of fun - my former editor Chris Kellogg made sure of it. And like that cheap beer you graduate students brew and imbibe, with your continued care and consumption, I'll only get better with time. Looking forward to hearing from you.

Congratuations, graduates!

The following people have successfully defended this semester:

Yoav Reppaport
Katie Fitzsimmons
Leslie Ward-Geiger

And, surely this newsletter would not be complete without mentioning the almost-graduation of Mike Moyer, a key figure of our student body for 13 (I think?) years. Congratulations, Mike! Your presence (and your beard) will be sorely missed - your graduation signals the end of an era. Of course, the legacy of "Father Time" will forever tick in the heart of our departmental history.

Kudos to you all. We wish you the best. And yes, Mike, we'll keep giving blood.

Kudos to you too!

To Melanie Dotherow-McFields for earning the fellowship we heard about on cmail!
To Dave Fries for the birth of a new baby girl! (Dave, you forgot to send me her name and poundage!)

Don't forget what's coming up

1. Pool and foosball tournament on Friday, Feb 28 for TGIF
2. USF Derby Day on Saturday, March 1.
   Admission free for everyone! The main event is at 12:30 p.m.; evening races at 7:30 p.m. Marine science receives 1/2 of the donated proceeds from Derby Lane. Last year we received only 1/3 but the amount totalled a grand $6700.00! So be there! We need your support!
3. We're hosting the 1st meeting of the regional student chapter of the Society for Marine Mammalogy on Wednesday, March 5 at 5 p.m. Contact Lizz Schlansky for more info.
4. Tavern Beer Brew on Friday, March 7.
5. Spring Break (whatever that is) March 8-16.
6. The Oasis Program is hosting its 8th annual bowl-a-thon on March 2 at the Sunrise Lanes, 6959 Ninth St. N. For those who have no idea what Oasis is (besides something to do with H2O in the desert), it's a program that encourages middle schoolers to achieve both in the classroom and as individuals coping with that elusive, scary concept called "the real world" (e.g. personal development skills, anger management, etc.). The program also exposes them to a variety of cultural activities that they would never be able to otherwise enjoy. The bowl-a-thon helps raise money for this important program (form teams of 5, pledge sheets involved). To have fun and help out in the process, twinkle those toes like good ole Fred Flintstone and call Jim Martin at 893-9159 for more information.
7. Double whammy!! Double whammy!! (Sorry, I felt compelled to repeat myself since, after all, the following message is, as I said, a double whammy). Saturday, March 22 will be the next salt marsh planting at Cockroach Bay (9 a.m. til about 11 or noonish). It is also the reunion for last year's Oceanography Camp. This means the first part of the reunion and the salt marsh planting are one in the same - a brilliant strategy to recruit participants if I do say so myself. And if you're not familiar with the salt marsh planting, the restoration site at Cockroach Bay came to life in December 1996 thanks to volunteers like you (note the subliminal message). The purpose of the marsh is multifaceted: It's a nursery habitat for juvenile fish, birds and other wildlife, a buffer zone for the effects of storms and pollution, and hey, the project 600-acre project could help restore Tampa Bay so how could you not help out, right? Well, if you're still not impressed, for Pete's sake come for the free lunch. (Who is Pete, anyway? Just curious).
Sports

And here it is. The moment you've all been waiting for (or reading for).

It's the T-u-r-k-e-y B-o-w-l update.

I received three versions of what happened (was in Mardi Gras trying to get into Pat O'Brien's at the time and had to solicit summaries of the action). I chose to reprint each version in its original form and think you'll find it similarly amusing. I'll start with a biologist's point of view since, well, that's what I am...

The Turkey Bowl through the eyes of Andrew Remsen

On the first play from scrimmage, Terri Siliko rushed her blocker, tomahawked the ball from the non-biologist QB Dave Duncan, scooped up the ball and ran the 20 yards for the TD. The next possession proved similarly futile for the non-biologist as on the third play of the series, 6-8 Canadian Chris Catrall (playing football for the first time) intercepted a wobbly Duncan pass and true to his rugby upbringing, lattered it to the blazing-fast Jason Lenes for a quick 2-0 biologist lead. The reeling non-biologists finally got things going on their third possession, gaining their first down before turning the ball over once again when receiver Gary Mitchum fumbled the ball after anticipating a viscious hit from 110 lb. nickelback Pam Cochran. Tracey Sutton then hooked up with all-world receiver Drew Remsen on a post route who made a diving catch in the end zone between his three defenders. The non-biologists then attempted a trick play in an effort to confuse the biologist by punting on first down. Such futility did not stem the outcome as the biologists went on to score a game, 27 touchdowns to 3.

At least that's the way I thought it happened after that battle of Jim Beam...

And now through the eyes of Bryan Black

The Turkey Bowl was held later than usual this year after a one-year lapse. Traditionally, the non-bios had never won a Turkey Bowl. This year, however, the last two Turkey Bowls have been glorious won by the non-bios. This year the score was 9 to 2. That is 9 touchdowns to 2 touchdowns. Thanks go to Terri, Tom and Eric S. for helping prepare and cleanup was performed by Dave D., Jim, Bret, Mika, and Drew. Thanks to all for coming and hopefully the biologists will show up for the next game.

Now look up there for the final version...

Sports (cont'd)

Through the eyes of Dave Duncan

Short turkey bowl history, then re-cap.

Since the game was re-installed in 1992 (layoff since 1989, I believe), the running total is the biologists 1 win, 1 tie, 2 losses; for the non-biologists, see above. (1992 - tie, 5-5; 1993 - biologists win 6-5 or something like that; 1994 - blowout, non-biologists 7-2) In 1995-96, there were no games due to the fear of the biologists. And in 1997, the most recent turkey bowl (Bryan Bowl), it was another blowout with the non-biologists winning 9-2.

Duncan then listed some stats in his message:

OFFENSE: Biologists - touchdowns by Drew and Jason, Nonbiologists - touchdowns by Jim Edwards (2), Bret Jarrett (3), Bob Byrne (2), Brian Donahue (1), and Duncan (1), which was a 99-yard interception return.

DEFENSE: Biologists - interceptions by Drew (1), Nonbiologists - Interceptions by Jim Edwards (3), Duncan (3), Eric Nielson (1), and Gary Mitchum (1).

Duncan ended his re-cap with a quote paraphrased from Bob Byrne: "This nonbiologist team could have probably beaten any of the biology teams that we ever played."

So there it is. Decide for yourselves which version you'd like to believe.

I have.

Thank you

1. To MSAC-motivator Terri Siliko for her hard work and dedication. She also recruited me as editor for this publication and want to thank her for the opportunity for more fun to distract me from my thesis.
2. To Andrew Remsen for changing "The Residence Times" to "The Squid's Ink." What d'ya think?
3. To MSAC student officers and active members: Brian Donahue, Dale Griffin, Eric Siegel, Helen Talge, and Lara Nicosia. Just because you deserve it.

If you've got any o' these, et me know! Don't be shy! (Just don't be too wordy either!)

Coming soon: Student profiles, joke o' the month, faculty/staff/other profiles, hot/cold internet sites of the month. PORTS info., and more (if I get help)!!!