

Unique jaw procedure resolves toddler's obstructed airway

Tamika Winters of Brandon still wakes up at night to make sure her daughter hasn't quit breathing.

For months now, 2-year-old Taylor Brown has been sleeping peacefully. But earlier this year, the toddler's retruded lower jaw — the result of a rare neonatal infection — was causing sleep apnea so severe her breathing had become dangerously impaired.

In March, craniofacial experts at the University of Mississippi Medical Center extended her jaw using implants in a unique procedure called a jaw distraction osteogenesis that promotes bone growth. Four months later, Taylor is breathing and eating well, with a beautiful smile to boot.

Shortly after a normal, healthy birth in August 2009 in a metro-area hospital, Taylor suffered a severe infection of staphylococcus aureus, which wreaked havoc on her tiny body.

"Her doctors knew that she was kind of sick, but they didn't realize that it was an infection until later," said Winters.

After a week without success, Taylor was transferred to UMMC, where two and a half months of aggressive treatment eventually cleared up the infection. As she recovered, experts discovered that the infection had eroded bone in her hip and pelvis.

"But we didn't know that the infection had eaten her jaw," Winters said.

As Taylor grew, her breathing became more labored. In January, she had her adenoids removed, but that didn't fix the problem. That's when she was referred to Dr. Ronald Caloss, associate professor of oral and maxillofacial surgery, and plastic surgeon Dr. Michael Angel.

They ordered a CT scan and discovered her retruded lower jaw was seriously obstructing her airway.

"The bone was eroded in the condyle," said Caloss, referring to the part on each side of the mandible that hinges into the temporomandibular joint (TMJ). "This resulted in her jaw and base of tongue shifting backward into her airway."

"The condyle is a growth site for the lower jaw. So with this being affected from her infection, her jaw has not grown forward as it normally would in childhood development."

The tongue attaches to the underside of the mandible, and as the jaw grows forward, it moves the tongue forward out of the airway, Caloss said. In order to fix her



Taylor Brown with her mother, Tamika Winters

breathing, Taylor needed a bigger jaw.

Jaw distraction has become an effective treatment for craniofacial abnormalities, most commonly the congenital disorder Pierre Robin syndrome. But Caloss had never heard of it being used to treat a TMJ disorder.

After planning the procedure on virtual surgery software and with models, Caloss and Angel cut through the bone on each side of Taylor's jaw behind the spot where her molar teeth are developing. Then, by attaching titanium distraction devices to the bone, they pushed the lower jaw forward gradually over the course of 10 days. In the months that follow the procedure, new bone grows in the gaps. Caloss said they usually remove the implants four to six months after surgery.

After recovering from the surgery, Taylor immediately began sleeping better and gaining weight, her mother said.

Taylor's mother and father, Darryll Brown, are thrilled at how much she's improved since March, but say they can't help wishing she had arrived at UMMC sooner.

"I wish that's where she was born," Brown said.

SOD takes part in Give Kids a Smile Day

Busloads of students from Gallopway, Johnson and Smith Elementary schools visited the School of Dentistry on Feb. 11 for Give Kids a Smile Day, an annual event sponsored by the American Dental Association that provides free preventive screenings for kids nationwide.

All told, more than 1,000 Jackson students received dental exams at the University of Mississippi Medical Center's dental school or at a clinic at the Jackson Medical Mall Thad Cochran Center.

The event, coordinated by Marla Martin, director of clinical operations, is aimed at low-income children with little access to care.

It was the School of Dentistry's ninth year to hold the event.

Dr. Neva Eklund, chair of the Department of Pediatric Dentistry and Community Oral Health, said the event is a great day but that one day is not enough to improve oral health or overall health in children. The long-term goal is to promote healthy habits.



Johnson Elementary third-grader Treshundra Johnson receives a cleaning from dental students John Murphy, D3, and Kelly McKenzie, D2, during Give Kids a Smile Day last year.



DENTISTRY

Winter 2012



service learning

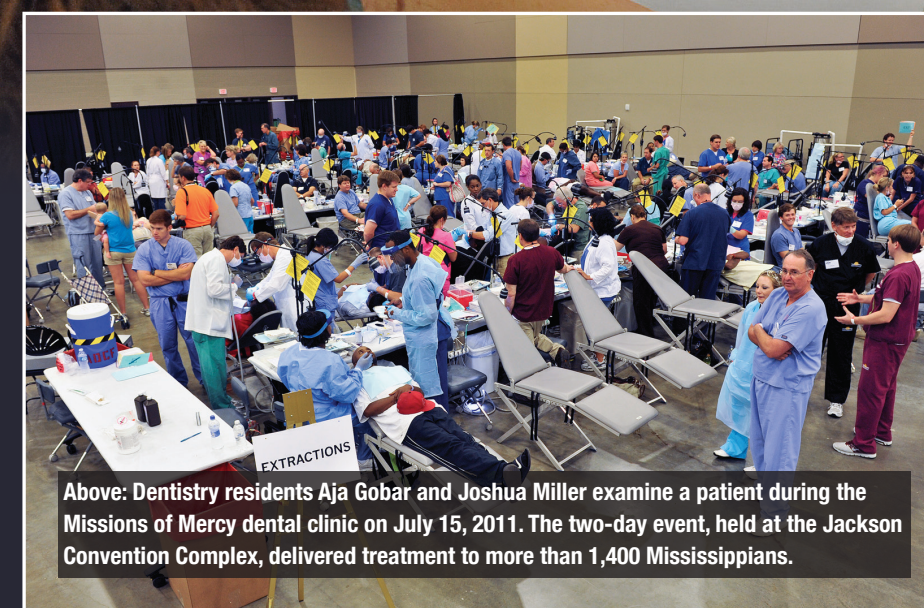
SOD ramps up involvement in community

By 9 a.m. on the morning of July 15, some 650 people had already turned out to receive free dental care at Mississippi's first Mission of Mercy dental clinic, held at the Jackson Convention Complex.

The two-day event, sponsored by the Mississippi Dental Association, the University of Mississippi School of Dentistry and other groups, aimed to provide adults and children who don't have access to dental care through dental insurance or other means with fillings and extractions.

"We're here to meet needs and alleviate the pain and suffering from those people who can't afford to pay and don't meet the requirements for Medicaid or other programs," said Dr. Mark Donald (class of 1988), MDA president and chair of the Mississippi Mission of Mercy project. "This is a way to bridge that gap, and it leads to better overall health."

Overall, 1,435 patients received volunteer treatment from 133 dentists from around the state, including School of Dentistry faculty, residents and students. The need and the show of support made a clear statement: Community service is something dentists take seriously. And it's something the dental school and its



Above: Dentistry residents Aja Gobar and Joshua Miller examine a patient during the Missions of Mercy dental clinic on July 15, 2011. The two-day event, held at the Jackson Convention Complex, delivered treatment to more than 1,400 Mississippians.

students are becoming more involved in, says Dr. Gary Reeves, interim dean of the school.

"Service learning is a vital part of the mission for our School of Dentistry," Reeves said. "These types of experiences help our graduates become concerned and caring community leaders. This Mission of Mercy projects blends well with our educational objectives."

"In addition to participating in the annual Give Kids a Smile Day, sponsored by the American Dental Association, students are getting more service learning opportunities.

This fall, fourth-year dental students will begin serving clinical rotations the Mission First dental clinic in west Jackson.

"Mission First is for people who fall between the cracks," said Dr. Robin Howard, School of Dentistry in-

structor. "If you have Medicaid/Medicare, CHIPs, you're not eligible. This is for somebody who needs care that doesn't have access to care. And they are backlogged two and three years. They have so many patients that they're behind. And it's an opportunity to serve and help them out."

Additionally, the number of public health clinics where students gain experience is expanding. Howard said students will serve four-day rotations at sites

ranging from Mound Bayou to Meridian and more.

There is a tremendous need for oral care across the state and in the Delta, she said, but that need also is in our own backyard. On Aug. 22, Howard and other faculty members screened more than 200 students and Brown Elementary School in Jackson.

"We saw kids who had systemic issues because their teeth are infected due to poor diet or neglect," she said. "They've got all these patients who need dentists, and we've got all these students who need patients."

Service Learning Community Oral Health Week, set for February, also gives dental students a chance to visit area schools and talk with kids about oral health issues of their own choosing.

"Education is an important part of outreach," Howard said.

Coming Events

Escape the southern heat in summer 2012. Head to Alaska for the family vacation of a lifetime and earn up to 15 credits for you and your office team.

Register for the cruise, flight and hotel through Jodi Murphy at Cruise and Travel Partners, www.CruiseAndTravelPartners.com.

Register for the continuing education conference through UMMC Continuing Health Professional Education. Fax your registration form to 601-984-1309 or call 601-984-1300.

CE topics include:

- Restorative and Surgical

- April 17: Governor's Cup: Trustmark Park (for Alumni Board Members)

- April 20: Dental Alumni & Friends Events: 9:00 a.m. Golf Tournament/ lunch - Deerfield



considerations for Single Tooth and Short Span Implant Supported restorations, by Larry Breeding, DMD, MS

- Healthcare Reform, Stormy Blair, AU
- Treatment Considerations and Options for the Severely Mutilated Dentition, Larry Breeding, DMD, MS

- Dinner & DAF program - River Hills Club honoring classes: '82, '87, '92, '97, '02

- June 6-9: Mississippi Dental Association Annual Session, Sandestin, Fla.

Ethics signing



Fourth-year dentistry students attend the 2011 Senior Honors Convocation and Banquet May 13 at the Norman C. Nelson Student Union. The event featured a keynote address by Dr. David K. Curtis, past-president of the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry, and comments from Dr. J. Kevin Holman, president-elect of the Mississippi Dental Association.

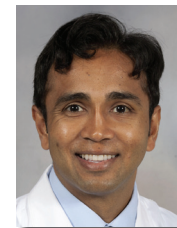


the Dean's Corner

I can't believe it, but another year has passed since the last newsletter. We have been very busy. We started the academic year off with thirty-four new D1 students, the Class of 2015. They are an extremely bright and diverse group of students (21 females, 13 males) who have a science average GPA of 3.60, overall average GPA of 3.71, academic DAT average of 18.5, and perceptual DAT average of 19.5. Congratulations, Class of 2015. We are very proud of each of them and wish them well in their education.

4th Floor Restorative Laboratory. I thank you again for your support of this EXCEL Project.

I would like to welcome a new faculty member Dr. Stone Thayer, assistant professor of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery. Dr. Thayer attended the University of Pennsylvania School of Dental Medicine and graduated with honors in 2001. He then went on to serve with the United States Naval Forces as part of the Navy and Marine Corps amphibious platform. Dr. Thayer completed his active duty obligations in 2004 and then began his surgical training in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery at the University of Texas Southwestern/Parkland Hospital in Dallas. During his training he also acquired his medical degree and completed a General Surgery Internship at the University of Texas. He completed his residency in 2010 and then did a fellowship in craniofacial and reconstructive surgery at the Charleston Area Medical Center in West Virginia. He is trained in treating pediatric craniofacial defects, pathology and reconstructive procedures.



Thayer

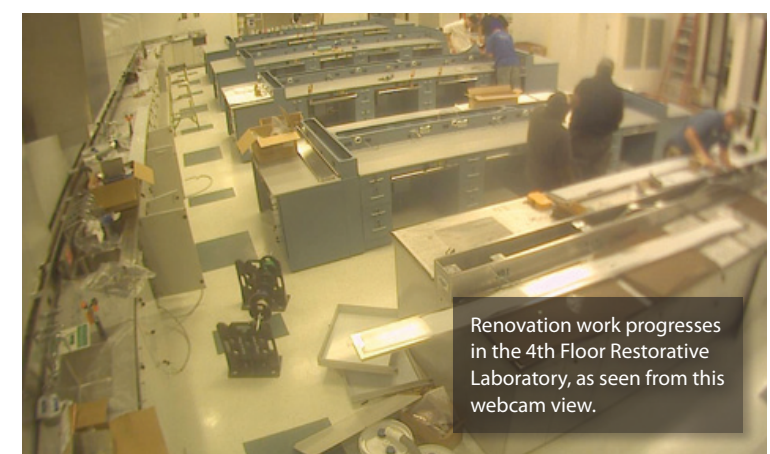
The D2 and D4 classes are preparing to take the National Boards. Some have already taken Part II and have done very well. We are hoping they keep up the excellent performance at scoring above the national averages on these exams as they have done in the past.

Renovation on the fourth floor Restorative Laboratory is under way and is anticipated to be complete by February 19. The construction company that received the bid was Benson Builders and Properties out of Ridgeland, Miss. They have 210 days in the contract to complete the project from their starting date.

A webcam has been installed in the lab by UMMC Information Systems to be able to follow the progress of the renovation. It can be accessed by going to UMMC School of Dentistry web site, EXCEL Campaign, read more — it will connect you to the whole article and at the end of the article it will have a statement to click here to see the progress of the renovation. Please join us in watching this wonderful transformation of our

I hope you enjoy this newsletter and read more about other activities that have been occurring this past year at the school. None of these activities could have happened without the strong support from our alumni and friends. Thank you for your continued support.

— Dr. Gary W. Reeves, interim dean



Renovation work progresses in the 4th floor Restorative Laboratory, as seen from this webcam view.

Students benefit from 2 new scholarships

Students at the School of Dentistry are gaining a financial leg-up from two new scholarships aimed at rewarding top-notch skills and preclinical excellence.

The Dr. Jeffrey Alexander Memorial Pre-Clinical Achievement Award and the Dr. Chris Spraberry Award both were presented for the first time in April.

Now in his second year, John Wilke received the \$500 Jeffrey Alexander award, which is presented to a first-year student for academic achievement in the preclinical sciences. And Jon Flint, now in his fourth year, received the \$1,000 Chris Spraberry Award, which is given to a third-year student for excellence in pre-clinical sciences.

Dr. Donna Thomas Moses, of Carrollton, Ga., graduated from the School of Dentistry with the Class of 1990. She said she began contacting classmates in early 2010 to raise money for an endowment in the memory of fellow 1990 graduate Jeffrey Alexander. Alexander lost his battle with cancer early in his dentistry career.



Moses

"Nothing has ever been done in Jeff's memory, so I just started making calls. It came together quickly," she said. The goal was to announce the endowment on the 20th anniversary of their graduation.

"Our entire class was like a family," Moses said. "Jeff was an outstanding student. I think he'd always wanted to be a dentist because of his dad was a dentist. And he was a great tennis player."

Moses said she is very proud to have graduated from UMMC's School of Dentistry.

"I came here (to Georgia) to get my specialty in perio, and I didn't want to lose touch. I think that shows you how impor-



Dr. David Duncan, right, associate dean for student affairs in the School of Dentistry, presents the Dr. Jeffrey Alexander Memorial Pre-clinical Achievement Award to first-year dental student John Wilke during the school's honors day ceremony April 26.

tant that is to you," she said.

"We have one of the best dental schools in the nation. I just want to give back to the school that meant so much in my life. I think it comes from the quaintness of the school. We didn't have huge classes so we had much more one on one instruction."

Moses said she will continue to encourage her former classmates to help continue the scholarship.

The Class of 1995 Endowment in the Name of Chris Spraberry was established in 2010 by former classmates of the Gulfport dentist who died suddenly in 2009. In April, Audrey Beasley, Spraberry's sister, visited the School of Dentistry to



Dr. Gary Reeves, left, interim dean of the School of Dentistry, and Audrey Spraberry Beasley present the Chris Spraberry Award to third-year dental student Jon Flint during the school's honors day ceremony April 26. The \$1,000 award is the first to be given from the Class of 1995 Endowment named for Chris Spraberry, a Gulfport dentist who died in 2009.

award the first scholarship from the endowment.

On Oct. 21, Beasley held the second annual Dr. Christopher E. Spraberry Memorial Golf Tournament.

"Our first year was extremely successful and we were able to make a sizable donation to the Chris Spraberry, D.M.D. Endowment fund at UMMC."

Beasley, who presented the award to Jon Flint personally with her husband, Charlie, said Flint was very appreciative and planned to participate in the golf tournament.

"It was really special that Charlie and I had the opportunity to be there for the first award," she said.

Bright smiles



Dr. Sara Jane McCrary (left), assistant professor of Pediatric Dentistry and Community Oral Health, and dental assistant Michelle Lasseter examine a prekindergarten student on the Colgate Bright Smiles, Bright Futures bus on Thursday, Sept. 15. The School of Dentistry's pediatric dentistry faculty and residents participated in the event held at Pecan Park Elementary School in Jackson, where about 450 students were screened. Colgate's Bright Smiles, Bright Futures program promotes oral health care and prevention to underserved children around the world.

Softball tourney



The School of Dentistry held its 2nd Annual Softball Tournament and Crawfish Boil on May 14 in front of Smith Wills Stadium. All dental classes, faculty and staff participated. This special event featured homemade ice cream made by Leslie Frese, D2. This year's winners were the D2 students, Class of 2013. The event was sponsored by Dr. Elijah Arrington, a 2008 graduate of the School of Dentistry. The co-chairs for this year's event are David Minto and Loan Nguyen. Pictured are Tracy Paul (front row), Kelly McKenzie, Leslie Frese, Brice McMurphy (back row), Aaron George, Griffin West, Jay ArunKumar, Warner Myers, Zach Crawford, Tyler McCabe, John Harrison.

Alumni roundup



MAWD AT VIKING COOKING SCHOOL

Dr. Eleanor Gill (from left), Dr. Karen Crews, Chef Matthew Sheeter, Dr. Melinda Lucas and Dr. Raane Tindle at the Mississippi Association of Women Dentists winter meeting at the Viking Cooking School.



TUPELO MEET & GREET

Dr. Gary Reeves (left), interim dean of the School of Dentistry, visits with Drs. Christine and Harry Rayburn during the Meet & Greet the Rayburns hosted at their Tupelo home in May.



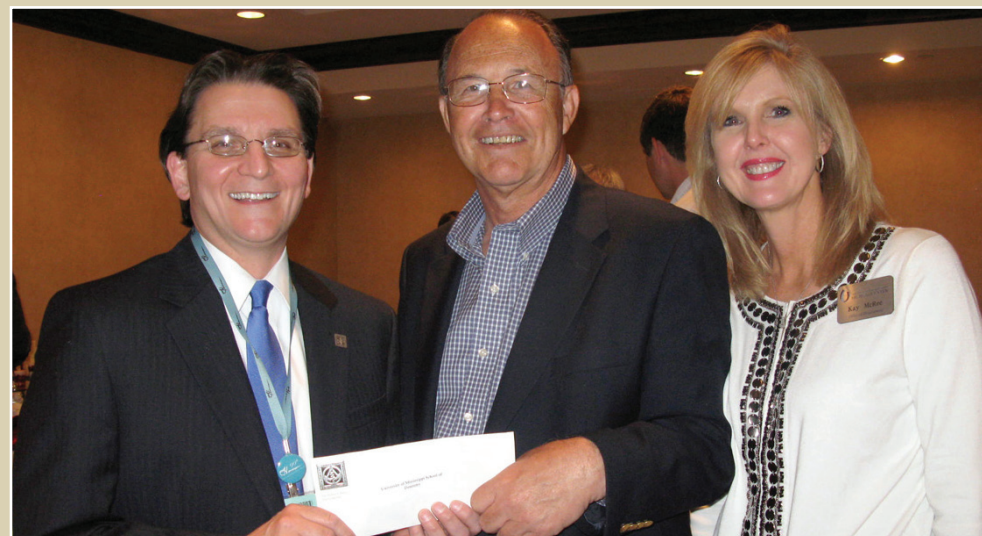
COAST MEET & GREET

Mary Beth and Dr. Gary Reeves, interim dean of the School of Dentistry, with Dr. Andrea Elenbaas (right) at a Meet & Greet at Elenbaas' Pass Christian home last summer.



MDA MEETING

Dr. J. Kevin Holman, D.M.D. (left), 2011-12 MDA president, and Dr. W. Mark Donald, last year's president, attended the Mississippi Dental Association's June meeting.



HINMAN SOCIETY

Dr. Sedgie Newsome (from left), Dr. Buford "Butch" Gilbert and Kay McRee attended the Thomas P. Hinman Dental Meeting meeting in Atlanta in May.



Dr. Daniel Quon (seated) with Dr. Melinda Lucas, president of the alumni chapter, and Dr. Gary Reeves, interim dean of the School of Dentistry.

Class of 1979's Quon named alumnus of year

Dr. Daniel Quon of Madison says he became a dentist because as a child he had a toothache that inspired him to devote his life to determining what caused such pain. At least, that's the way his mother tells it. Quon himself doesn't recall the toothache. For him, it boils down to a lifelong fascination with the science of health care.

In April, Quon was named 2011 Alumnus of the Year at the annual Dental Alumni and Friends dinner.

A native of Hernando, Quon graduated from the University of Mississippi in 1974 before joining the first class to graduate from the School of Dentistry in 1979.

"Being in the first class, we had no older students to guide us," he said. "All of my classmates were preparing to start their own practices, but I was still trying to decide what I wanted to do."

A friend suggested he apply for a residency, and that led him to the University of Alabama and Birmingham where he completed a general practice residency in 1981, followed by an oral and maxillofacial surgery residency in 1984. He was chief resident for each.

"Because I was a part of the first class to graduate from the School of Dentistry, I felt I had a moral obligation to return to Mississippi," Quon said.

He began a practice in Jackson in 1984 and also joined the Medical Center as clinical professor of oral and maxillofacial surgery. He also serves on the staff of St. Dominic/Jackson Memorial Hospital and was ENT/oral and maxillofacial surgery section chief from 1994-95.

Quon said that it wasn't until he was in residency training talking with dentists from established schools around the country that he realized how valuable his education was at the dental school.

"Being in a specialization program with other students gave me an idea of how broad my education was. I realized I really was afforded a quality education for a first-time school," he said. "The students here receive a well-rounded education."

Quon was president of District IV of the Mississippi Dental Association and is a member of the American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery and the Pierre Fauchard Academy.

He also is a member of the UMMC Guardian Society and helped raise funds for the dental simulation lab.

Said Quon: "With us being in the first class to start and finish, I thought it would be fitting to try to help honor Dr. Wally Mann, the first dean of the School of Dentistry," for whom the lab is dedicated.

Quon is married to Wanda Jong Quon, and they have a 27-year-old son, Jason Daniel.

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