Communicating
THE PROBLEM

I never have a clue what the developers are talking about.

When I ask what they're doing, they say they're XMLing the CSS SQL RSS EIEIO blurbifrum.

When I ask where they're at, they say they're 90% done—for 90% of the project!
Daily Standups (a.k.a Daily Scrum)

- Daily standup (aka scrum)
- 3 questions
- User story focus
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The Three Questions

- What did I do yesterday
- What am I doing today
- What’s in my way
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Short 15 minute or less. Goal is synchronization, not status reporting.
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http://blog.mountaingoatsoftware.com/daily-scrum-not-just-for-scrummasters

Tuesday, April 10, 2012
Daily Standups: Warning Signs

- Communication gaps
  - Someone not aware what someone else is working on
  - Someone working on problem someone else has an easy solution for
- Silos:
  - One developer does all the Java code, another does all the database work
- Waiting: anyone waiting for someone else to complete a task
  - This includes waiting for client input
- Solo work
- Open-ended tasks, such as "researching ways to run the app in the background"
- Unsustainable efforts

Tuesday, April 10, 2012
REPORTS FOR NEW TEAMS

Done: ____________
Done: ____________
Obstacles: _________
Other: ______________

Tuesday, April 10, 2012
REPORTS FOR NEW TEAMS

Required
write "nothing"
if you have to

{  
  Done: ____________
  Done: ____________
  Obstacles: ________
  Other: ______________
}
REPORTS FOR NEW TEAMS

tested and deployed

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everything not directly adding value to product, e.g., meetings, development server configuration, writing new tests, ...
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User Stories

$user_type$ can $action$ in order to $achieve_goal$

http://blog.mountaingoatsoftware.com/advantages-of-the-as-a-user-i-want-user-story-template

The Agile Samurai, Chapter 6
User stories are the basic unit of work.

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The Agile Samurai, Chapter 6
User stories are the basic unit of work.

User stories are the atoms of planning, progress tracking, and reporting.
Critique: Done

Built a web and database server, including its data organization and sample data.

Users can see what basketball courts are available.

Went through Ruby on Rails tutorial.

User can now access the website from the computer.

<blank>
CRITIQUE: DOING

- Writing test cases for walking skeleton
- Changing DB so users can view availability for multiple weeks, not just one
- Adding other sports with courts
- Debugging how the server manages user requests and grabs data from the database
- Implementing calendar plugin to better display group availability results.
REPORTS FOR NEW TEAMS

required
write "nothing" if you have to

tested and deployed

user stories

Done: _______
Done: _______
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Other: ____________

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Done: ____________

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Other: ____________

required
write "nothing" if you have to

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user stories

Done: ____________

Done: ____________

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encourage smaller slices

Tuesday, April 10, 2012
REPORTS FOR NEW TEAMS

- Required
  - write "nothing" if you have to

- Encourage smaller slices

- Encourage streamlining

- Tested and deployed

- User stories
  - Done: ______
  - Done: ______

- Obstacles: ______

- Other: __________

- Everything not directly adding value to product, e.g., meetings, development server configuration, writing new tests, ...

Tuesday, April 10, 2012
REPORTS FOR NEW TEAMS

required
write "nothing" if you have to

reward delivery of client value

tested and deployed

user stories

Done: ____________
Done: ____________
Obstacles: ____________
Other: ____________

everything not directly adding value to product, e.g., meetings, development server configuration, writing new tests, ...

encourage smaller slices

encourage streamlining

Tuesday, April 10, 2012
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required
write "nothing" if you have to

Done: ________

Obstacles: ________

Other: ____________

tested and deployed

reward delivery of client value

continuous improvement

everything not directly adding value to product, e.g., meetings, development server configuration, writing new tests, ...

encourage smaller slices

courage streamlining

Tuesday, April 10, 2012
Unfamiliarity with Ruby on Rails

Unfamiliarity with Ruby on Rails makes progress extremely slow on my part.

Continuing to learn necessary technical skills

none unless you count no previous web-server development knowledge

I am not familiar with Java or JSP so I mostly help with HTML and design aspects.

Staying updated with group progress when members are working on code remotely
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How?