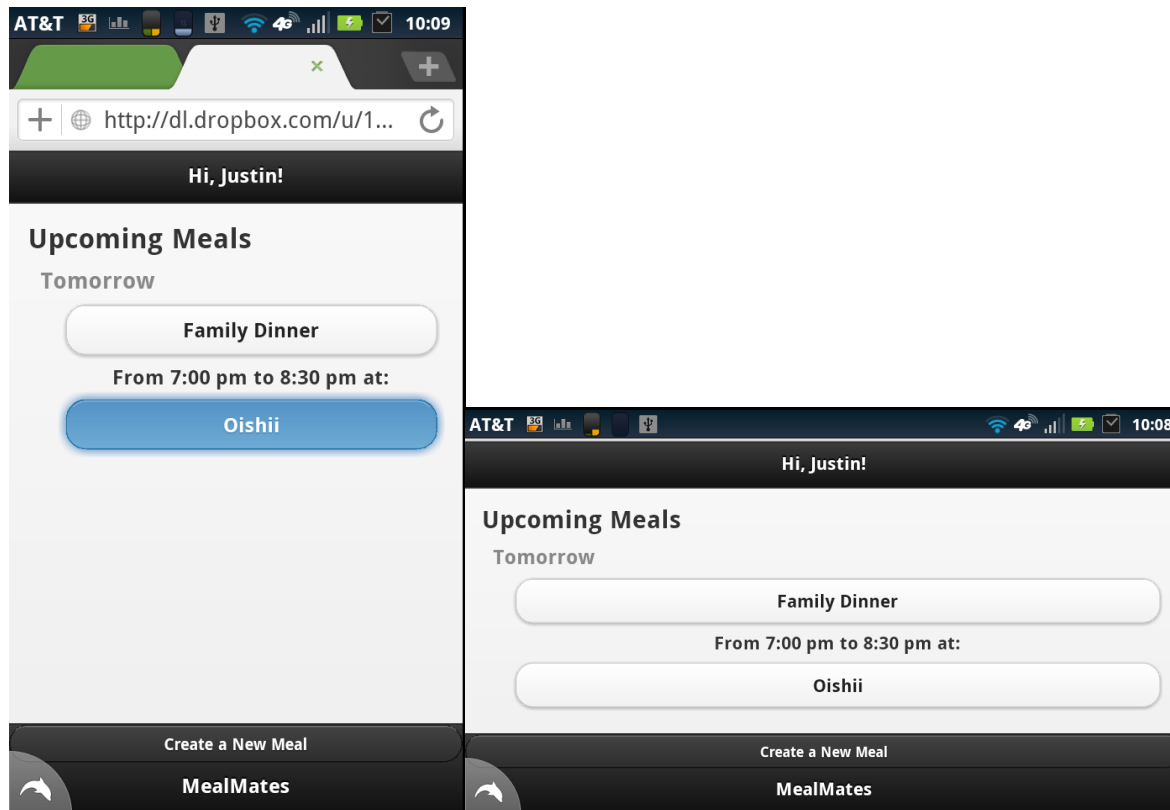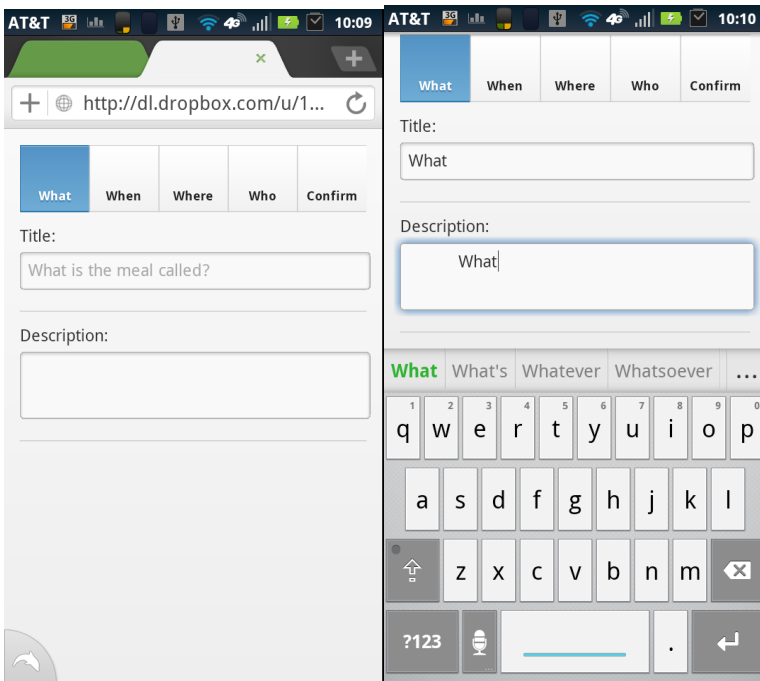6.813 - Meal Mates

HW2 – Heuristic Evaluation: Benjamin Lee

Home Screen:
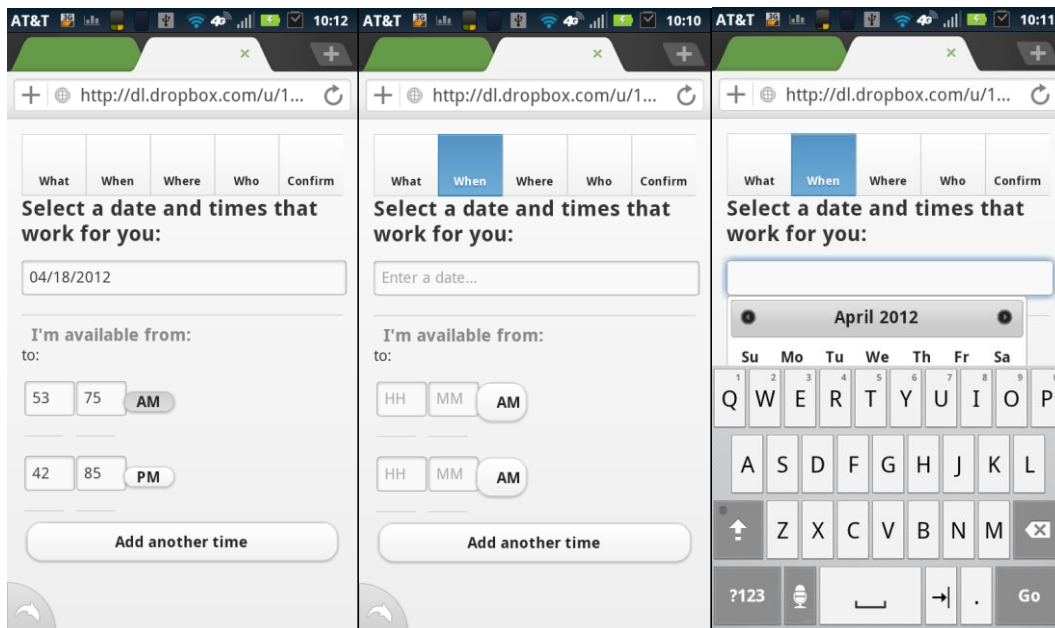

- The home screen is good. "Family Dinner" and "Oishii" give the affordance of buttons, but do not respond otherwise. (Affordance, Severity: cosmetic/minor)
- Choose a different layout for a landscape orientation, only a small slice is visible when I rotate the phone, which makes scrolling hard. (Visibility, Efficiency, Explorable Interface, Readability, Severity: minor/major)

What Tab:

- The tab bar at the top is not initially set blue to the What section (but it does when I click on it) (Consistency, Defaults, Feedback, Tracking state, Severity: cosmetic/minor)
- The title text field is good (Affordance, Feedback, Consistency, Good)
- The description text area does not work well with touch screen keyboards? (no keyboard option to say done with typing) (Standards for text area editing? Dialog closure, Severity: minor/major)
- The transition between tab sections is consistent (click on the tab menu to move on, gives impression that data does not require a save button) (Consistency, Learnability, Minimalist Design, Visible Navigation, Good)
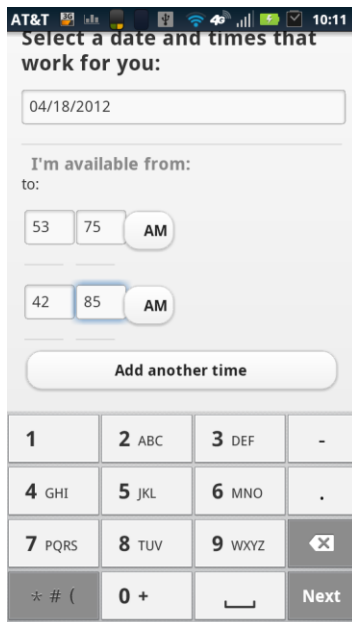
When Tab:

- Selecting the date field brings up a calendar and the touchscreen keyboard (conflicting input methods) (Defaults, Standards, Severity: major)
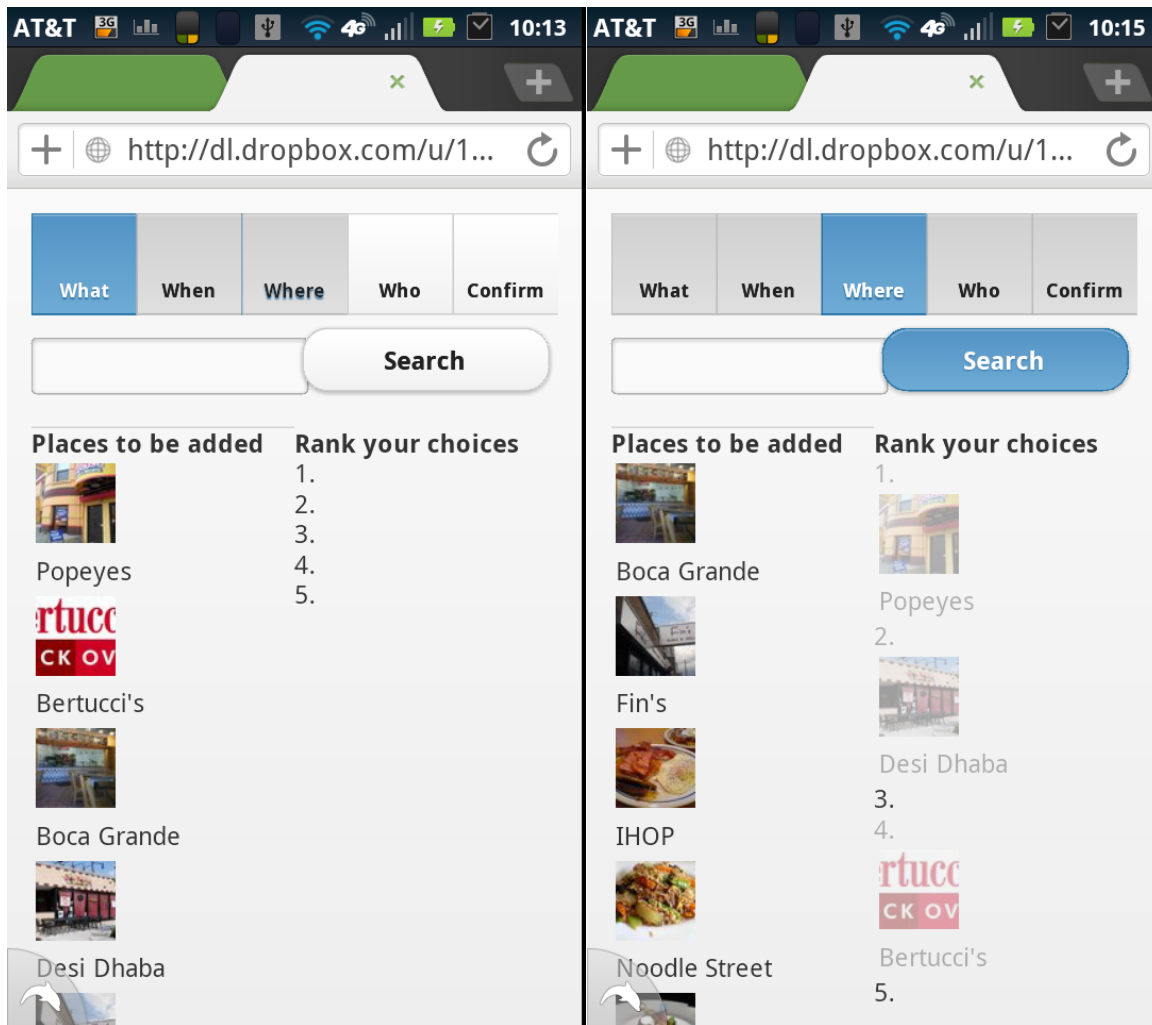
The AM/PM toggle and time selection:
- The dual textfields for times does not give the affordance for times (besides the AM next to it) (Consistency/Standards, Natural Mapping, Severity: minor)
- Freedom to input whatever numbers is too flexible (impossible times) (Error prevention, Severity: major)
- Clicking on the AM/PM toggle will sometimes shade the button, implying some persistent selection independent of the toggle (Consistency, visibility, state, Severity: cosmetic: minor)
- The AM/PM toggle button collides with the time textfields (Whitespace, Severity: cosmetic)

Time Input: Next
- The touchscreen keyboard provides an efficient method to input all four times consecutively (Efficiency, but maybe not the best Metaphor, Severity: cosmetic)
- This was mentioned on the wiki, but the "Add Another Time" button is not responsive (but it does give the affordance of a button, which is good)
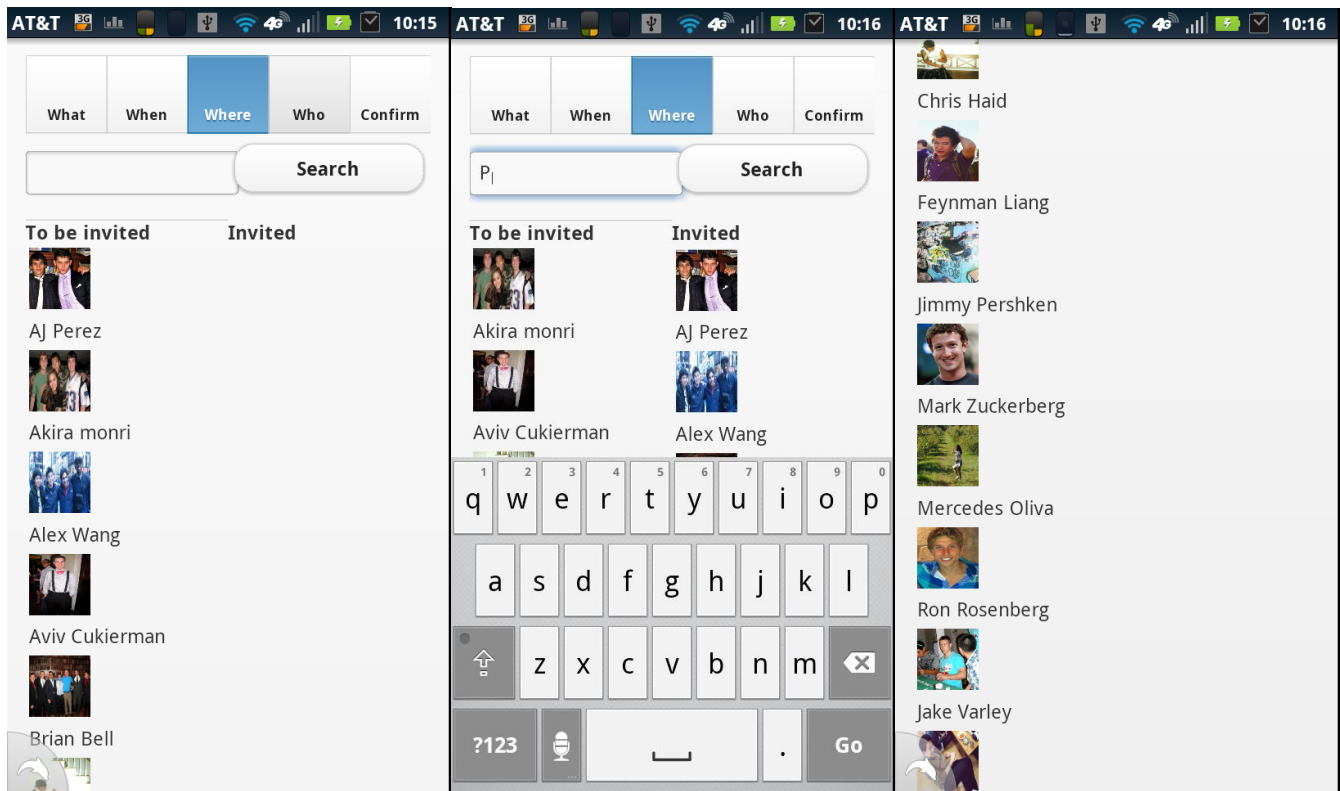
Where Tab:

- Here I first notice, that trying to navigate back to "What" and "When" does not work (a false affordance) (Consistency, Reversible actions, Severity: major)

Item Dragging:

- The drag feature is not obvious (not an affordance) (Human Interface, Learnability, Severity: major)
- The drag end targets are not clear (can't easily select to which number I want to drag a picture) (Learnability, Hard of Sight, Fitts's Law, State tracking, Severity: major)
- Drag results are not undoable (Reversible Actions, Severity: minor/major)
- Search bar does not respond (Affordance, Possible Latency, Severity: minor/major)
- Trying to navigate to "Who" from this tab does not work (Consistency, Affordance, Navigation, Severity: major/catastrophic)
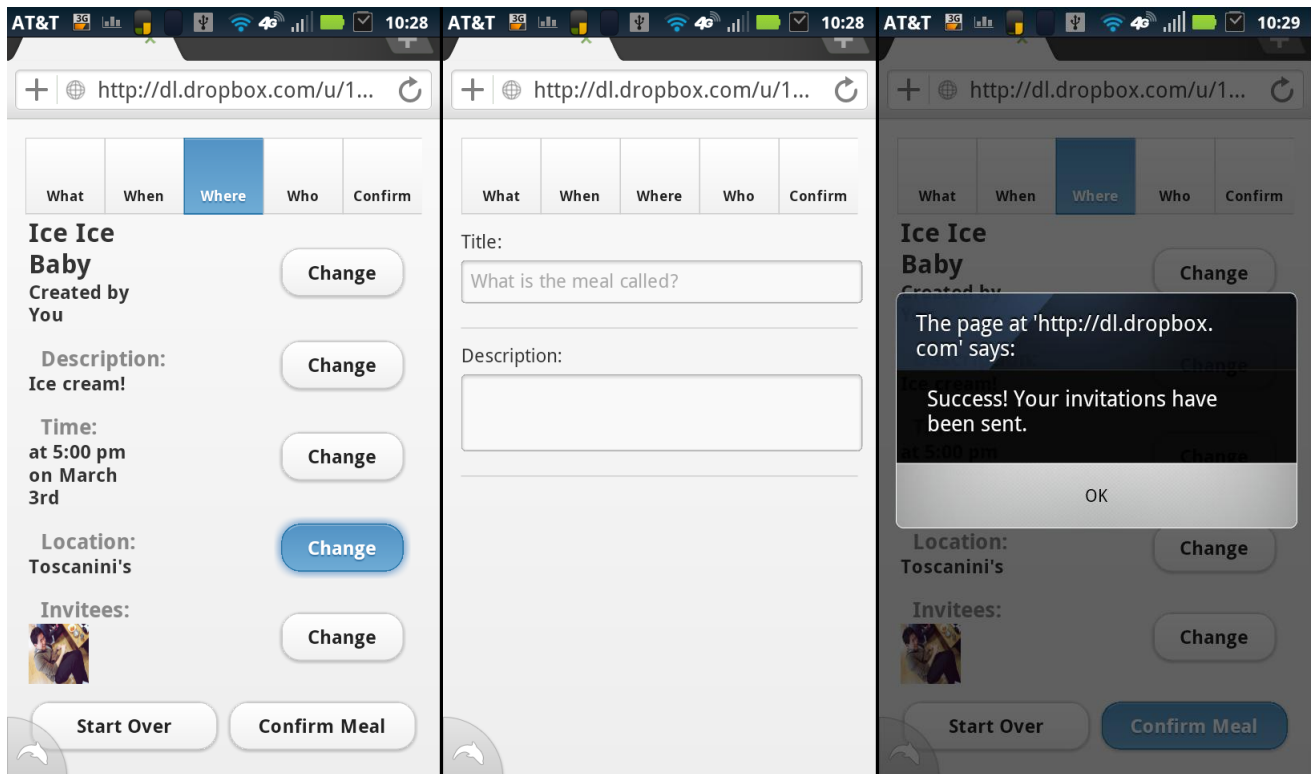
Who Tab:

- Again, the tab menu does not consistently show which tab you are on, or respond to a change in tabs (Severity: Track state, navigation, Severity: major)

Dragging:

- Dragging works here (consistency, Good)
- Dragging to remove from invited section works here, but is not afforded to (no response to show that a drag operation is underway) (Feedback, Human Interface objects, Severity: minor/major)
- Dragging to unselect an invited person does not put them back into their original spot in the total list (imperfect undo, loss of organization) (Reversible actions, Consistency, Severity: cosmetic/minor)
- At one point I was able to scroll down (same with selecting the search bar), but not consistently (Consistency? Feedback? Latency, User in control, Explorable Interface, Severity: minor/major)

Confirm Tab:

- The "change" buttons do not respond (Affordance, Severity: minor)
- Summary structure is clear and visible, whitespace is good (Whitespace, visibility, feedback, Good)
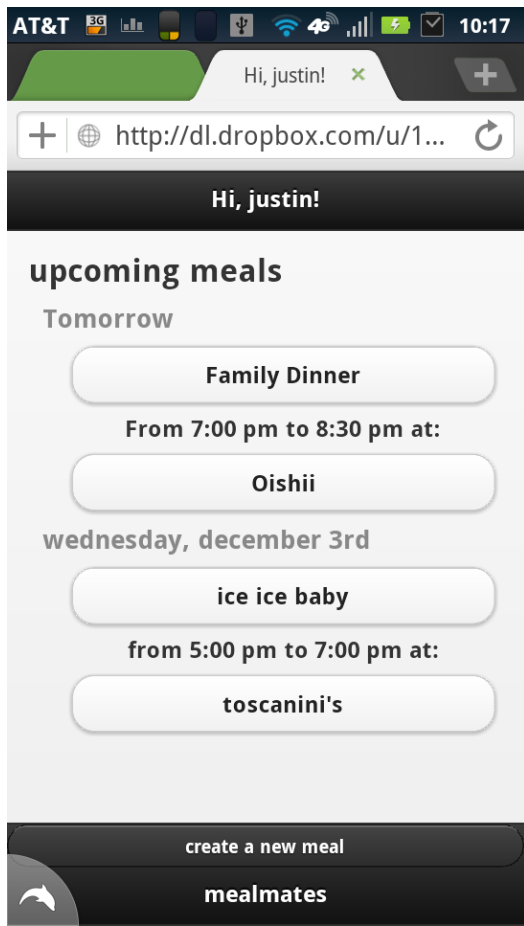
Start Over Button:

- Tab menu is invisible again here (absence of visible state, Severity: cosmetic)

Confirm Meal Button:

- Let's me know that the requests have been sent (not a quiet finish, Feedback, good)

Meal Added to Home Screen:

- When many events start populating the main screen, the 3-rows per meal entry might be too disorganized (but so far I can't add any more events, so that's just a warning) (Aesthetics, Efficiency, Severity: cosmetic/minor)
- Overall, color scheme is good and minimalist, greyscale coloring with occasional blue selected buttons, with readable text (Aesthetics, minimalist, color blindness, readability, Good)