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COP3813 Final Project Report

Purpose

WallPics overall usage has not changed from assignment 8, it is still a photo sharing website. The primary functionality of the app is to allow users to create accounts and post pictures to a common wall. This is managed through two subsections: the sign in/sign up forms, and the photo sharing wall, taken from assignments 7 and 8, respectively.

The sign in/sign up forms remain largely unchanged from assignment 7. They still allow a user to create an account and sign into the app with that account. New in this version is the addition of Ajax to give feedback on username availability when creating an account. As an account is being created, the user database is checked to determine whether the input user name is available. This instant feedback makes the site a little more user-friendly. What makes the site user-unfriendly is the confirmation pages, but those could not be removed due to time constraints. An additional confirmation page was added for when an account is deleted, and it keeps with the theme of the sign in/sign up pages.

The photo wall has most of the new features implemented in this assignment. With a redesigned navbar, users have a dropdown menu with the new “account” option. The account management page allows users to change their password or delete their account. Password changing is somewhat secure as passwords are not exposed and the old password is required. The completion page is still very barren, but with the new navbar, it’s easy to get back to the content. Deleting an account is now possible, but only when signed in as the account holder. This will keep the posts submitted by that account, however, as only the user table in the database is changed.

Accessibility and posting rights have been changed from previous versions of the app. The photo wall can now be viewed when not signed in, but attempting to take any action other than passive viewing will direct back to the sign in/sign up page. Assignment 8 required the username to be an input when uploading a photo, which is a potential avenue of abuse. In this version, when posting a photo, the uploader is unable to change their username and it is automatically attached to the post. A delete post option was considered, but not implemented due to time constraints.

With new features and more open accessibility, this version of WallPics is most able to provide users with a clean, simple photo sharing service.

Design

Development

**Tools**

* Sublime Text 2 for coding.
* PHP for server-side data processing.
* MySQL for database querying.
* HTML and CSS for webpage layout and styling.
* JavaScript and jQuery for DOM manipulation.
* Bootstrap for template, stylesheet, and JavaScript.
* Textbook chapters 12 and 26 for PHP code examples.
* Favicon-generator.org for favicon.
* Cyberduck for SFTP to LAMP server.
* GitHub and SourceTree for repository management.
* Safari (OSX and iOS), Chrome, Firefox for viewing and testing.
* Nu HTML Checker for validation (no errors or warnings found).
* Stackoverflow and class discussion page on Blackboard for troubleshooting.