INTERACTIVE

NEWSPAPER

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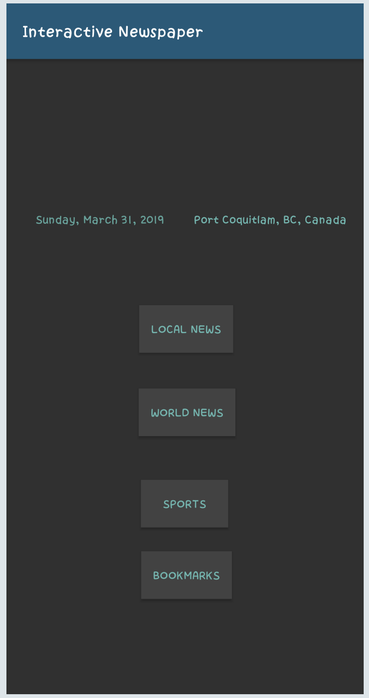
INTRODUCTION

The Interactive Newspaper is a lightweight, minimalistic approach at a newsreader application that aims to cut down on overwhelming the user with information, as well as cut down the amount of data usage.

FEATURES

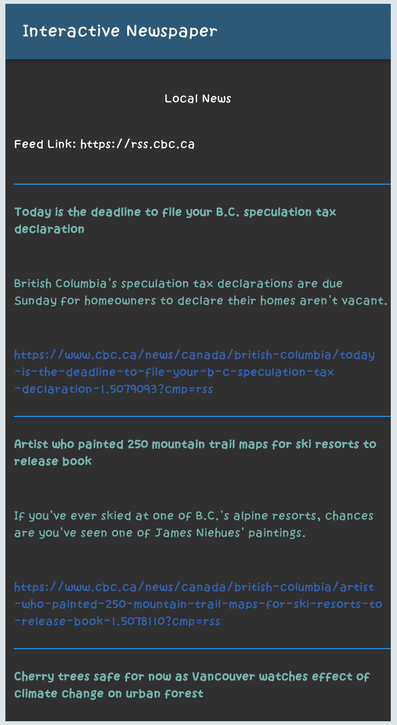


The Interactive Newspaper contains features such as GPS tracking that locates relevant news according to the user's location, adaptive theme switching and the ability to save your favorite news as a bookmark.

LOCATION

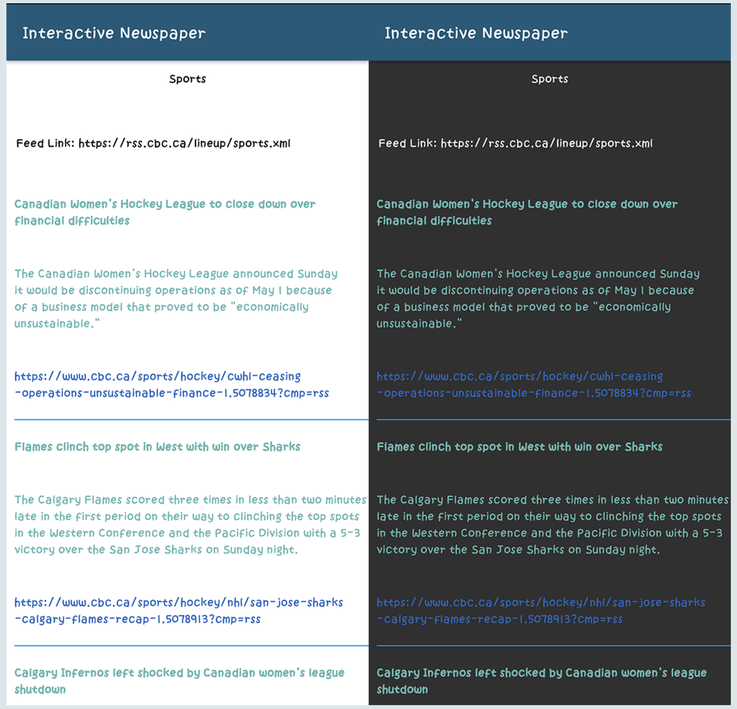
GPS tracking is used in the Interactive Newspaper as a way for users to read the most relevant and latest news according to their region. This is done through Geocoder that translates longitude and latitude values to useful addresses.

LOCATION



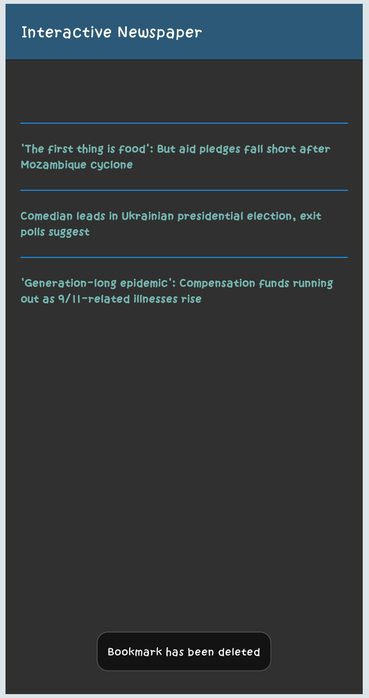
Upon successfully retrieving the user’s current location, the Local News activity will then display news according to the user’s current province, grabbing the news through an RSS feed using XML parsing.

SENSOR



The Interactive Newspaper also features an adaptive theme switch, prevent eye strain from occurring when users wish to use the application in low light situations.
Upon detecting low light environments, the Interactive Newspaper automatically switches to its Dark theme mode.

BOOKMARKS



Using the SQLite Database Framework, the Interactive Newspaper allows the user to save news articles if they want to read them later or favorite them to read again. By long-clicking the user's selected news article, the Interactive Newspaper automatically places this article into the bookmarks menu.

CHALLENGE

One of the biggest challenges that I faced while developing my application is the fact that AMD does not work with Android Studio's emulator natively. The fact that I could not use an emulator to test location services caused me grief as I thought my application was broken, when in fact, Surrey is not detected in the Geocoder database.

CHALLENGE

Unfortunately, I am unable to solve this issue of Surrey not being detected in my GPS feature. One possible solution that I could have implemented is to set a range of longitude and latitude values that allow my application to detect Surrey. However, this causes issues as while Surrey can be fixed manually, this does not fix all of the other regions that are not in the database and it is infeasible to modify and add values for each and every single region not in the database.