Brandon Zink

Project 1

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Project 1: Database Changes Description

Because they are a part of the directions for the project, I won’t describe the changes that I made as a part of the cronjobs. All of the other changes either took place as an altering of the database or an alteration in the retrieval of the data.

Only three of the feed were imported into the database, although more could fairly easily be added from Frank’s site by inserting the link into feeds with form (id, link, column).

The major change that I implemented was adding images to all of the feeds that could grab one. This was done using a library that I found via googling called simple html dom. This is all contained within the simple\_html\_dom.php file found in html.

A new column was added to the items database called imageURL. This is the link for the image for each feed item.

Getting the image is contained within lines 62 to 78 of fetchsimplepie.php. All of the images on the page are imported as an array. Our logic here is to use the fourth images (array[3]) if it exists because this seemed to get the most relevant images across most of the sites. If there weren’t enough images, then use the first. Otherwise, leave it blank.

Just below that, the image URL was added to the insert into database commands to insert it into its correct column in the database. Upon the re-running of fetchsimplepie.php, the image URLs were added into the database.

index.php was then altered to pull the Image URL from the database along with the other information. The image was then added to each post with the line:

echo "<img class='articleImage' src='".$item['imageURL']."'/>";

A little bit of changes in the style.css changed the sizing and style of the image to fit with the post, as well as a few various other styling changes were made.

Those are all of the changes made to the database and its connecting code.