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Three News

Description

Three News is a news display app. Three News solves the problem of not being able to work at your desk and swipe through breaking news stories at the same time. Set up your phone or tablet at your workstation so it's visible and Three News will auto-update the view with the most popular/breaking/trending news stories, updated automatically.

Three News will show the top story in the biggest part of the screen and the next two top stories in smaller frames. The three stories will update independently when new news is retrieved. Touching a story will launch the web browser to allow the user to read more about a story.

Three News is different from other news apps because it's not meant to give the user a long list of stories to page through - instead it's meant to display only the most recent and top stories in a readable way on a single screen and update and refresh them without user interaction. This app will work nicely on the Android TV.
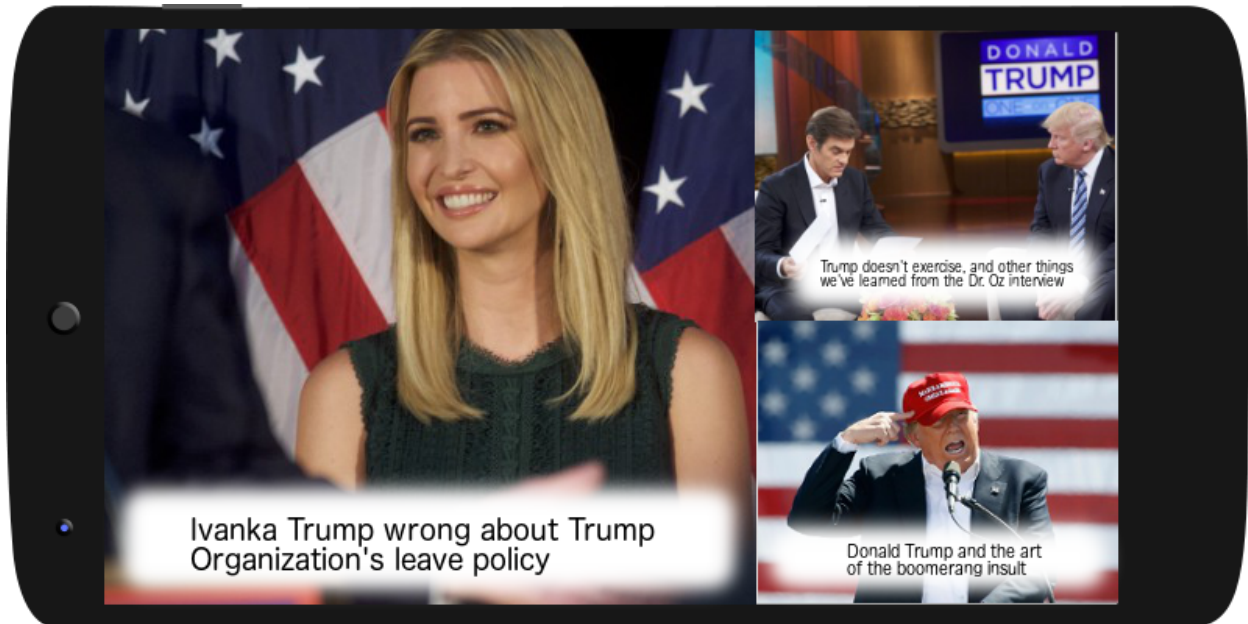
Intended User

Three News is meant for the person who wants to get the latest breaking news on his/her phone, but without manually swiping and refreshing. The user has work to do and would like to have a hands-free source of breaking news to watch at his/her desk or on the nearby Android TV.

Features

- Shows top trending/breaking news stories
- User can select news category preferences
- Stories refresh automatically
- App Widget shows the top story on the home screen and refreshes automatically
- Works on Android TV

User Interface Mocks

Screen 1

The main screen will show the three most current news stories from the categories you've selected, and will update when new stories are available.

Screen 2

The settings activity will allow users to choose their news category preferences.

Key Considerations

How will your app handle data persistence?

News category preferences will be stored in SharedPreferences. Breaking news stories (image, title, short description, link) will be stored in a sqlite database and accessed from the app with a content provider. They will be accessed from the web with a SyncAdapter.

Describe any corner cases in the UX.

From the main screen of news, the user will be able to go to a settings activity to choose news topics and go back to the main screen.

Describe any libraries you'll be using and share your reasoning for including them.

Picasso will be used to download images.
Asymmetric Grid View will be used to show news stories in differently sized views.
  -    https://github.com/elliptic1/AsymmetricGridView

Describe how you will implement Google Play Services.

Google Analytics will be used to track user activity.
Firebase Crash reporting will be used to track crashes.

Next Steps: Required Tasks

This is the section where you can take the main features of your app (declared above) and decompose them into tangible technical tasks that you can complete incrementally until you have a finished app.

Task 1: Project Setup

- Set up news API service from https://newsapi.org/
- Create news fetcher service that puts news into a sqlite db
- Create content provider that pulls new stories, when available, and adds to fragment
- Create app widget that shows top news story
- Decide best way to determine when to replace on-screen stories with new ones

Task 2: Implement UI for Each Activity and Fragment

- Create Settings activity that filters news stories
- Set up fragment that shows a large section and two smaller sections
- Make gridview update when new stories are available
- Make app widget update with new stories

Task 3: Android TV

- Make it work on Android TV
- Set up Google Analytics
- Set up Firebase Crash Reporting