Project

Check-in 1

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CSCI 4237

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Class Activities and Homework

Summary:

https://github.com/GWU-CSCI-4237-Spring-2023-classroom/project-1-hernpiblo/pull/2
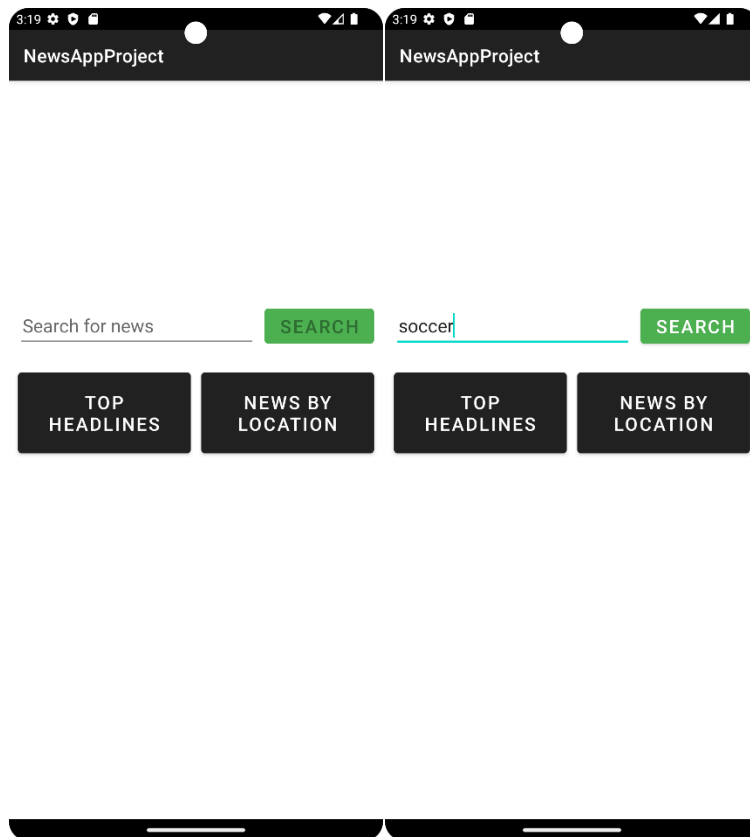
Home Activity:

Implemented the EditText for users to search news. The Search button is only enabled when the EditText is not blank. Implemented the Top Headlines and News By Location button too but they do not route to another activity for now, only logged to show that it is working.
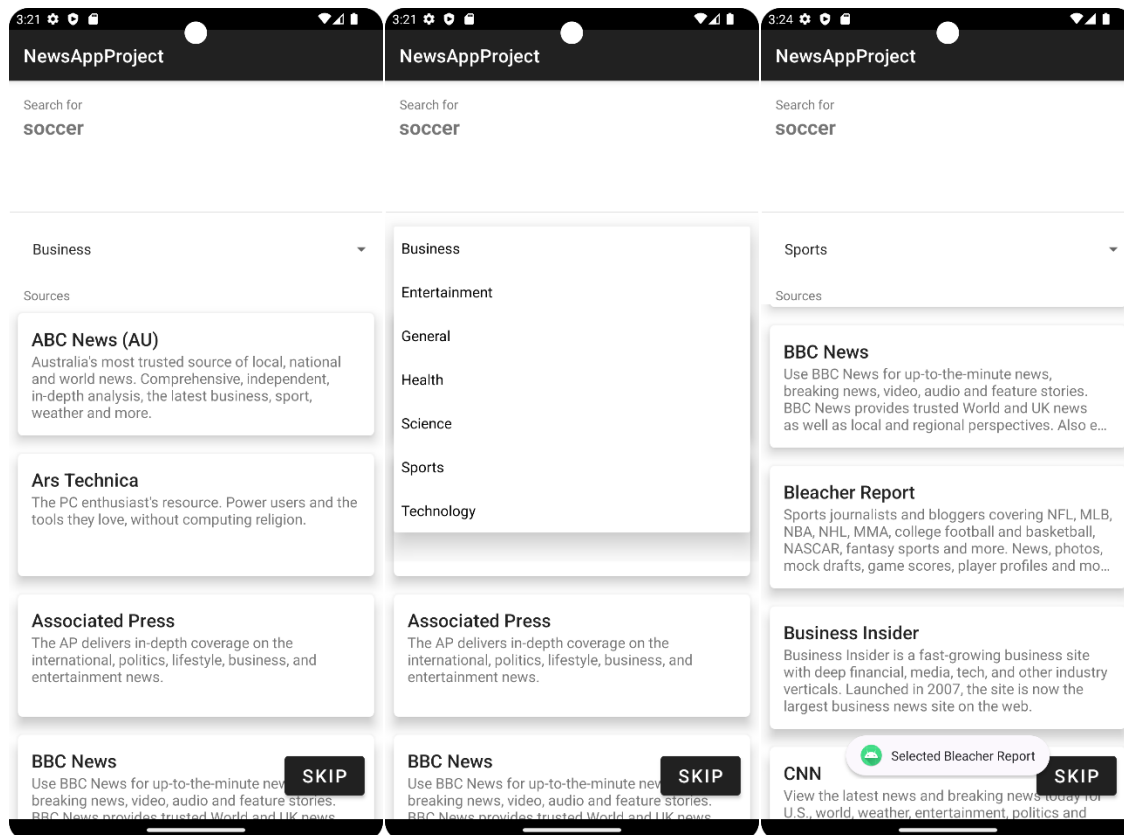
Sources Activity:

Implemented 3 sections. Top is the search term that was keyed in by the user which is being displayed again as a TextView. Middle section is the Spinner which when clicked, shows the different categories of news. Currently, categories are hardcoded in but easy to refactor to use an API call. Bottom section is the RecyclerView which shows the news sources. Currently, sources are hardcoded and do not change when a different category is selected but easy to refactor to use an API call. When clicked, a toast is shown to indicate to the user which News source was chosen. A 'Skip' button is also displayed above the other views to allow user to skip the entire process of filtering. (currently only logs, no routing yet)

Screenshots:

Home screen (button enable/disable)

Sources Screen (Spinner, onClick of RecyclerView items, skip button)

Logging (eg. when 'Bleacher Report' is selected and when skip button is clicked)

Challenges:

It was slightly difficult to implement the Spinner since we did not learn it in class. Had to google and stackoverflow it. Got it working in the end. Goal is to be able to customize the appearance of it so it doesn't look so vanilla android

Had to extend the basic knowledge of RecyclerView to be able to handle logging and clicking of the recycler view items. Couldn't get the click visual effect to show on the items yet though.

Had to redesign the CardLayout for the recycler view items using the exercise 4 template

Interesting Notes:

Learnt new attributes to use (elevation to show views above each other), ellipsize (to truncate text and show ellipses), and lines (to fix the height of the textView based on the number of lines of text I want it to be able to display so that my cards look consistent instead of using wrap content)

Activity context has to be pass into the adapter as an argument to be used (eg. to make toast in my case)

Goal: Make a nice theme, make default appearance less basic looking

Recommendations/Feedback

None