Scottland Underwood

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SAK Auto Auctions Summary Report

We are happy to report that the final product is quite similar to our original vision of the project. Originally, we wanted to use real data, but unfortunately that was not possible, as outlined below.

However, we did have a few issues along the way. Initially, we went to the CarMax off of Medical Dr., hoping to get a spreadsheet of their car data that we could use for our data. They were not willing to work with us, telling us to just get the data by hand from their website. After that we planned to write a python tool to scrape the data we would need, but before started working on that we discovered a website called “Mockaroo” that allowed us to generate massive amounts of test data. This data we ended up using to populate the tables within our database.

We had a second issue that cost us time later. After first designing the database, we realized we had not assigned the foreign key constraints correctly. Fortunately, after we fixed them with the relational diagram we were able to execute successful queries.

The project definitely helped us learn the course better. Having our own database gave us practice writing SQL queries, as well as practice doing the relationship mapping.

Future extension to the project could include interface modules adding a multitude of functions, including spreadsheet generation and data visualization. Theoretically, you could also bolt a twitter bot onto the interface, and rig it to live tweet any changes to the database as they happen. Who knows why you would do this, but it’s theoretically possible.