Mike Kenney

CS-499

Milestone Three

9/28/2025

Milestone Two: Enhancement Two

Once again I've chosen to improve upon the final project for the CS-360 course. This simple Android app allows users to create and add entries to a bodyweight tracking journal.

I chose this artifact in particular because understanding the mobile app development process is a crucial skill for any software engineer to have, and although mobile apps might differ from more traditional applications in a number of ways, the methods used to design and build them are all based on the same fundamentals.

For this milestone, I've added interface elements and functionality that allows the user to modify existing entries in their journal. Before, the only option if a user made a mistake when creating a journal entry was to delete it and try again. Additionally, I made some moderate improvements to the user interface, as well as updating some error messaging to help the user understand any issues that may arise when manipulating data.

For this artifact, the course outcomes were achieved. I made the improvements that I detailed in my original enhancement plan, and demonstrated my knowledge of the software development process.

These improvements demonstrate an ability to use well-established techniques and kills for the purpose of implementing computer solutions that deliver value to a product. Improving upon the user experience is a crucial step in building any application, as even a well designed program can be completely hamstrung by a poorly implemented interface. A simple and intuitive design that allows users to extract the information they need and perform the actions they want with as few steps as possible is typically the best approach.

Possible future updates would include adding a dialog that asks the user to confirm deletion of existing entries or giving them the ability to sort entries by date.

This milestone demonstrated to me that even a simple application can sometimes be challenging to design and build. It is important to focus on the core functionality when developing an app, however, it can be easy to fall victim to scope creep even early on in the development process as you do incremental testing. It was also helpful to revisit my work after stepping away for some time as it allowed me to look at my code from the perspective of a third party who would not be as familiar with my aims.