

PennWest California

DeckTechCentral

Weekly Report 5

Christian Messmer, Paul Shriner, Adir Turgeman, Luke Vukovich

Dr. Mohamed

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For this week, we wanted to implement MongoDB into our application and ensure all members can run it on their computer. We will use MongoDB as the database for our application, which will hold various forms of data including card and deck information. The back-end has been worked on simultaneously with the front-end; we wanted to see if we could do a test of communication from the back-end to the front-end. Finally, we aimed to implement a deck search page into the front-end, as well as do other improvements and refinements.

We were able to implement a deck search page into our front-end. Accessing the page is similar to accessing the card search page – simply enter a term into the search bar with the toggle set to deck search. The deck search page will display decks that match the search term, with each deck in a panel. A panel will display the deck's name, the username that created it, likes, views, and a background that the user can choose. For the views, we have it displaying abbreviated versions of the results – 'K' for thousand, 'M' for million, etc. Small aspects can go a long way in user friendliness; it is easier for a user to take in a number like "1M", instead of 1,021,400. Of course, the actual view count will be accessible. The deck search results are simply test data that Luke entered in, and clicking on the panels do not do anything. We aimed to have a consistent experience across pages – if one knows how to use one feature of our application, then they know how to use the entire application. Paul worked to improve the responsiveness of the page; he added mechanisms for resizing the header and card modals when the page is zoomed in. Adir talked with Luke via voice chat, and offered feedback that will be considered.

For the back-end, Christian created a "Model" project and uploaded it to the DTC GitHub. This contains the data types for what we will be using and storing in our application. We had a meeting where Christian explained what he was doing and recommend tutorials for us to

follow. In our Week 5 Presentation, we showed off a diagram for the API Dataflow, which was made possible by our work in the prior weeks, most notably through the API Specifications.

There were no setbacks this week, however we did not try sending messages between the front-end and the back-end. This is a crucial step in the development of our application, so we need to prioritize this in our actions to take. Other than that, we did have to rewrite and refactor some code in the front-end in order to make it more reusable. While this wasn't great in the moment, it will save us time and effort in the future, so we don't consider this a setback. In terms of progress, we are on track. We took time to look over the Gantt Chart, and while Christian noted that no progress had been made on the API Endpoints, we had blocked four weeks for them, so we are not behind.

Next week is not actually part of our schedule as it's part of the "Spring Break" that the university has, so our future goals are really for the following week. However, our group has decided to work during the Spring Break on the project, in order to maximize productivity and efficiency. A specific goal we have is to make a proper landing page for the front-end, probably with test data for the initial version. While a landing page is not critical to our application running, it will be the first page people see when they go to our application, so we want to make a good impression. We will also try to find more ways to make our application more responsive and user-friendly. Adir noted that the background of our pages could be seen as too "plain"; a way to solve this would be to use gradient colors based on the primary colors of elements on the screen. For the back-end, we want to begin work on the API Endpoints. This will then allow us to test communication between the front-end and back-end. Lastly, Paul and Adir will use the added time of Spring Break to familiarize themselves with the back-end. While Christian has been leading development of the back-end, it was our goal from the beginning to have all

members contribute to all parts of the project. This will allow us to learn and gain the most from this project.