Cody Riniker - Senior Project Plan

**Overview**

For my senior project I want to make a web application to help user’s budget and manage their money. This application will help user’s monitor their spending habits by allowing them to easily see how they are spending or saving their money. This application will not directly communicate with the users banking or credit card accounts. It will be up to the user to input the information as transactions happen. The main benefit of this app is that it will make the user more aware of the money they are using. Daily small purchases may not seem like a big expenses but over the course of a week or a month this cost can add up.

**Technical**

To create this app I plan on using the ASP.Net framework and C#. I like how the back end is managed in ASP.Net and want to gain more experience using it. The front end will be HTML, CSS, and JavaScript. The user's information will be stored in a MySQL or SQLite database. I plan on using MySQL because it has more features that would be useful, but I might use SQLite for demonstration purposes.

**Planned Features**

* Allow user to add/remove transactions easily. Overall, I want the user interface to be simple and easy to use. The user can also add a description to a transaction if they want.
* Allow user to schedule transactions for a later date or on a schedule. This is for something like a bill that is the same every month.
* Allow user to set goals for certain dates. The user could set a goal to have $1,000 after three months and the app would help track this.
* Having color coded transactions. Examples of this would be Green for deposit, Red for withdrawals, Blue for goals, and Orange for set payments.
* Allow user to track transactions over a specified range of times. The user can select two dates and see how much money they spent or gained over that time.
* Basic account management features like login and logout. This is so the user information will be persistent.
* Ability to search transactions. This will be by date, amount, or description

**Possible Features**

* Email alerts when and scheduled transaction is performed. This is something I want to do but have had trouble in the past implementing.
* More advanced search features and grouping. Analyzing user data and using it to predict things like purchases.

**Page Layout**

I want to try to minimize the number of webpages in the application. There will be a home page with a basic description of what the app does. From this page the user can login and then start managing their account. The main account page will display the user's information and recent transaction history. On this page the user can add new transactions or remove them. The basic search features and goals will also be on this page. Other pages will be used to check spans of spending over lengths of time. The main goal for the page layout is to keep the most used features on the main account page and to have the less common features like tracking over time on other pages.