User Manual: BIG NEWS

COMS W4170: User Interface Design

Team: Bow Flex Designers

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Introduction

This document lists the basic functionality provided by BigNews. Then it briefly tries to state how to use each of these functionalities.

When the application starts up, it shows the current headlines (title + snippet). At the top of UI, at the left side, there is a list of selection choices, so the user can search for a specific category. Below it, is the search box, which the user can type in the search terms. Next to it is the search button. To the right,, there is a slider, this slider allows the user to change the size of the text on the screen.

Here is a list of possible things a user can do from this point on.

1. Adjust Text Size

On startup, the user is presented with a dialog to select a comfortable text size. The user can select a text size with the mouse or keyboard. Once the text is set, the user can click on the Text Size button (or tab onto it and select it) to open the text size dialog again.
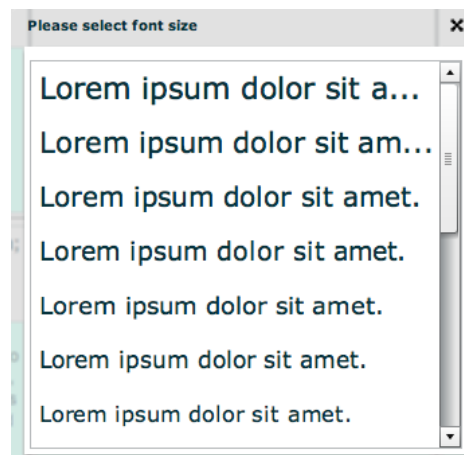
2. View Headlines

When the application loads, the user is presented with headlines. Selecting a different category provides headlines from that category.

3. Search

To search, the user optionally selects a category (to search within) and enters a series of search terms delimited by spaces. Bin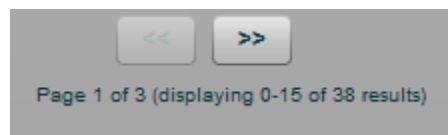g adds an implicit "AND" between all search terms, so searching for "Dog Food" will only yield results pertinent to both "Dog" AND "Food".


4. Pagination

The top fifteen search results are shown on the main results window. The user can click on the "<<" and ">>" buttons to page through more results if they are available.

5. Previous Searches

BigNews also shows all other searches from the user's current session. The user can make multiple search requests and then switch between the results. If the user clicks on any one of the search terms on the right, the results for that search term get loaded to the left and the user can navigate through them the same way.
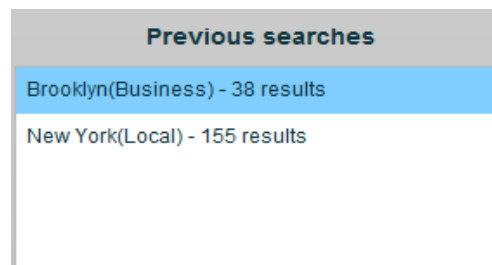
6. Advanced Usage

The following keyboard shortcuts allow for quick traversal of BigNews without the use of the mouse:

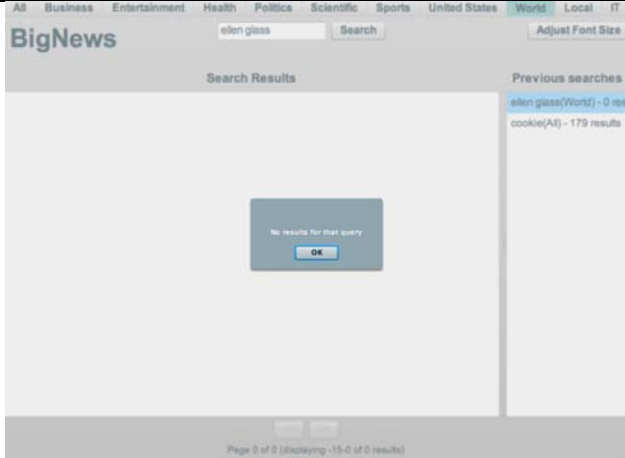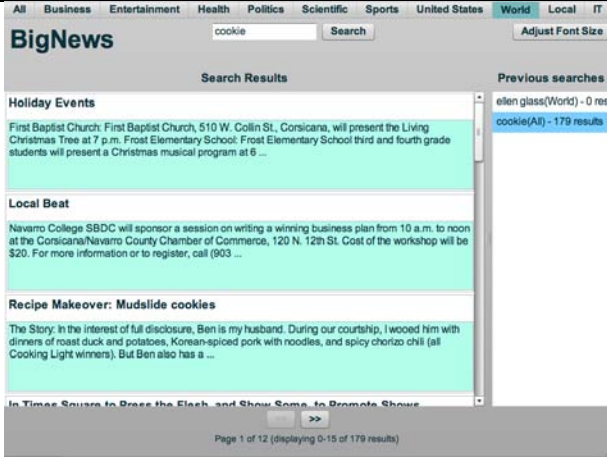| Keyboard Shortcut	Action
Ctrl-D	Focus on category bar
Ctrl-S	Focus on search box
Ctrl-H	Open up search view and focus on history
Ctrl-K	Open up search view and go to next page of search results (if possible)
Ctrl-J	Open up search view and go to previous page of search results (if possible)
Ctrl-Minus (-)	Make font smaller
Ctrl-=	Make font larger

Ctrl-F	Switch to headlines
Ctrl-G	Switch to search results

7. Example

These are the basic user manipulated functionalities BigNews supports. Here, is a scenario for a user "Tootsie Glass" searching for "cookies" then for "Ellan Glass" and then using the "Previous Search" pan, going back to the search results for cookies.

When she logs in, she sets her text size

When she chooses her font, she sees the headlines

Tootsie types in "Cookie" and clicks search. She sees this.

She opens a search result she likes

| She types in "Ellen Glass" but it yields no results | She clicks on the "cookie" entry in previous searches. |

THE END