

Design Concept: **BIG NEWS**

COMS W4170: User Interface Design

Team: Bow Flex Designers

Team Members

Waseem Ilahi (wki2001@columbia.edu)

Michael Glass (mgg2102@columbia.edu)

David Flerlage (dff2103@columbia.edu)

Introduction:

Big News will be a news searcher for people with visual and motor disabilities. As a side objective, we'll also try to make our application usable for people not completely familiar with computers. Perhaps we will split up these feature sets, so that in-program help for new users doesn't get in the way of speed and usability for power users.

Personas:

1) Persona: Tootsie Glass

Tootsie Glass is not a computer user. She is a great typist, but she can't use a mouse, and is unwilling to learn. She's 94, I don't really blame her. Her grandson has tried and tried again to get her to start using a computer, and she's perpetually resisted. She reads the Times every day, and skims the paper for references to anyone she knows -- her son has been in the news recently. Her grandson, Michael, catches her doing this, and sees an opportunity to make a computer application that she might even use.

2) Persona: Joe

Joe, 50 years old, is an airline pilot, but has been on disability leave for several years because of a plane crash he was in, leaving him with visual and motor disabilities. Joe is an avid reader and spends a good deal of his time reading current news. Unfortunately, the print in the newspaper is too small to read, and most websites are too difficult and too time consuming to navigate. Joe wants an easier and quicker way to read the news.