CSCI 4237 Project Proposal

GWAR Mobile App

3 October 2011
Alexander Washofsky

Project Abstract

GWAR is the name for an internal website for use by the NROTC battalion of midshipmen here at GW. Users have their own accounts and can view the personal information of other users, including address, contact information, class schedules, etc. There are also tools available that help with communication and can send emails or post announcements to a number of designated groups of users.

This mobile app will be a much cleaner interface for the phone – users can log in, and once they do that, they have access to an online address book with quick access to pertinent information and the tools available.

Strategy

The website runs PHP with a MYSQL database. Scripts can be added to the website to return information in a delineated format, rather than the application itself make the SQL queries. The application can then interpret that information and display it in a useful context for the user. The application will be developed for Android phones.

Unknowns & Problems

I haven't played around with GUI on phones too much yet, so that will be one of the big hurdles to overcome. The project is straightforward and manageable, but I need to further research exactly how to implement it.

Implementation Plan

The first step will be rewriting the scripts on the website to output data in an easily delineated format.
Next, I will design a basic layout to see if the application is interpreting the data correctly.
Finally I will create the nice-looking GUI interface, and if there is time left, implement some other nice features like tap-to-dial for phone numbers, tap-to-email for emails, etc.

The user interface will be a series of buttons – one will be Users which will branch into Freshman/Sophomores/Juniors/Seniors, and then will list the individual names, and then their relevant information. Another button will be tools, and it will list the tools available to the user. Another button will be event sign up, which will take you to a list of events that are available for signup. Another button will be files, which will take you to a list of downloadable files. [More buttons to come as design expands]