

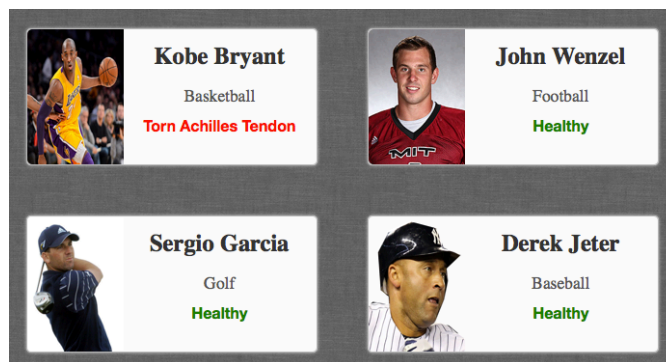
Heuristic Evaluation of Easy Trainer App

No collaborators.

Here are 17 comments (in order from most important to least) that will hopefully enable improvement of Easy Trainer with respect to the application's usability.

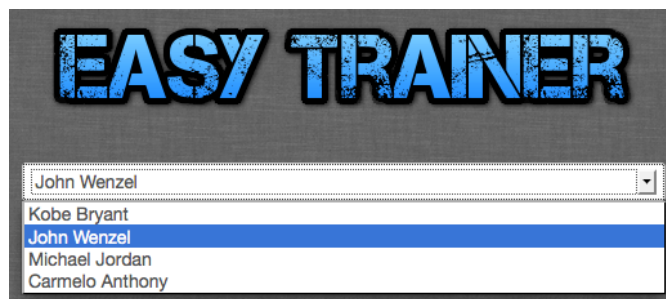
Major

It is unclear what the function of the buttons on the application's home page (see below) is. Will clicking the "Kobe Bryant" button just show the user his profile? His career progress? His personal life information? This hinders the *visibility* of the application's functionality since users do not know what to expect from the buttons and thus they do not know what to do with the buttons/how they can use the buttons.



Major

It is unclear what the function of the drop-down menu on the application's home page (see below) is. Will selecting "Kobe Bryant" just show the user his profile? His career progress? His personal life information? This hinders the *visibility* of the application's functionality since users do not know what to expect from the menu and thus they do not know what to do with the menu/how they can use the menu.



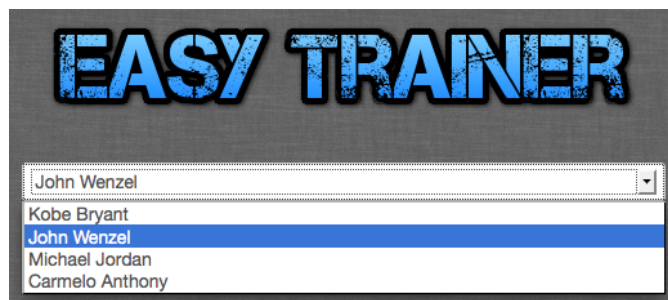
Major

In the exercise listings in the “Current Program” widget on an athlete’s page (see below), it is not obvious to the user that clicking on a particular ‘set x rep’ button allows the user to modify the number of sets/reps of that exercise. Fixing this enhances application *visibility* since adjusting exercise sets/reps is a crucial aspect of Easy Trainer’s functionality and the application must be able to show that it offers the user that functionality.

| | | | | | | |
|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|---|
| Lunges | 3 x 15 | 3 x 15 | 3 x 15 | 3 x 15 | 3 x 15 | x |
|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|---|

Minor

Even if the intent of the drop-down menu on the application’s home page (see below) were clear, since a drop-down menu typically doesn’t have the *affordance* of taking the user to a new page when an item from said menu is selected, the drop-down menu on the home page has relatively *invisible* functionality. Users don’t expect that selecting an athlete in said drop-down menu will take them to the selected athlete’s page.



Minor

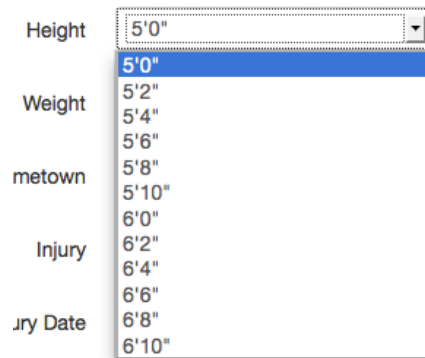
In the “Create a New Athlete” form, the ‘Injury Date’ field (see below) is a text input box, which makes it extremely likely for users to type in a date in the wrong format (e.g., instead of MM-DD-YYYY, a user [especially an international one] may input the date as DD-MM-YYYY or MM/DD/YYYY, etc.). Thus, the ‘Injury Date’ field is *unsafe* and conducive to *errors*. Using a calendar interface (like jQuery-UI Datepicker) for the ‘Injury Date’ field may solve this problem.

Injury Date

Minor

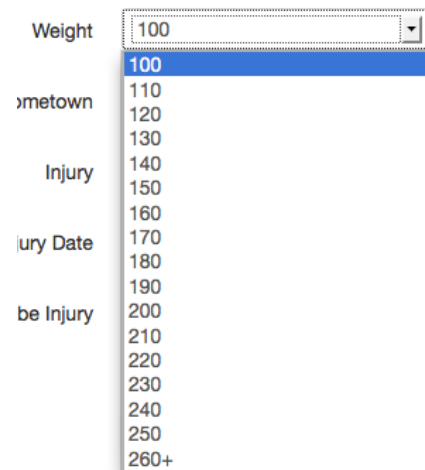
In the “Create a New Athlete” form, there is a discrete set of options for the ‘Height’ drop-down menu (see below), but athlete heights range a continuous spectrum (e.g., if an athlete is 5’2¾”). Athlete heights can also be under 5’0” and over 6’10” – which the current drop-down menu does not support. Thus, the ‘Height’ drop-down

menu violates *user control and freedom* since it unreasonably constrains what the user can or cannot input into the 'Height' field.



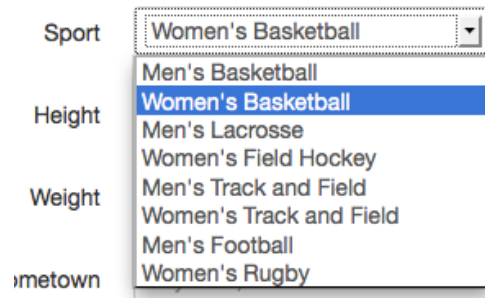
Minor

In the "Create a New Athlete" form, there is a discrete set of options for the 'Weight' drop-down menu (see below), but athlete weights range a continuous spectrum (e.g., if an athlete is 177 lbs). Athlete weights can also be under 100 lbs – which the current drop-down menu does not support. Thus, the 'Weight' drop-down menu violates *user control and freedom* since it unreasonably constrains what the user can or cannot input into the 'Weight' field.



Minor

In the "Create a New Athlete" form, the options for the 'Sport' drop-down menu (see below) are not ordered in any obvious way (e.g., the options are not ordered alphabetically nor with all men's sports first and then all women's, etc.). This makes traversing the options for the 'Sport' drop-down menu *inefficient* since finding the right sport requires, in the worst case, a full scan of the options list.



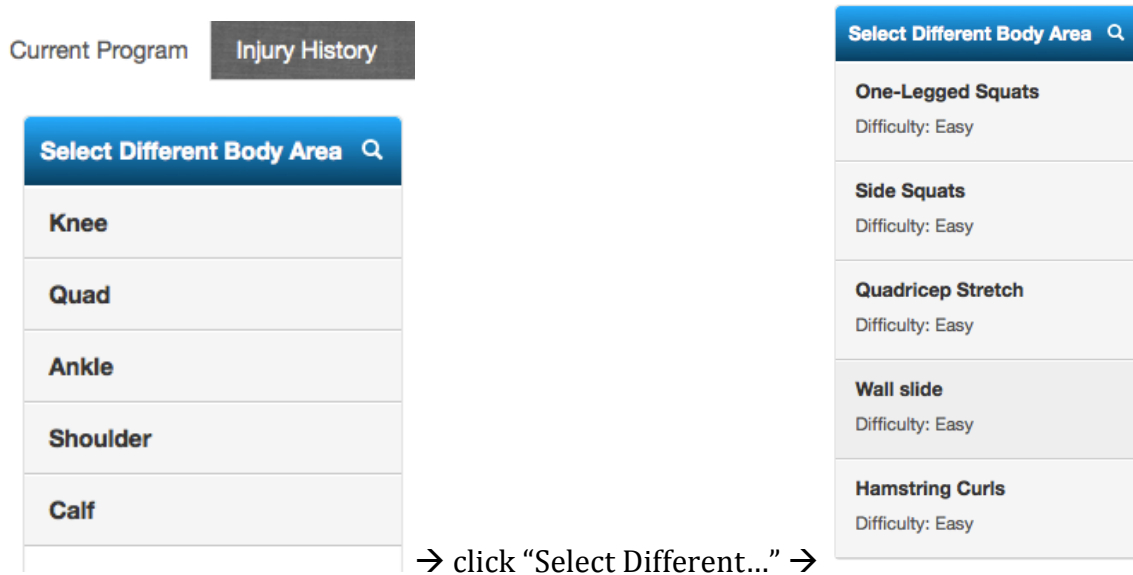
Minor

In the “Injury History” widget of an athlete’s page (see below), there ought to be a way to more *efficiently* find *just* an athlete’s healed injuries or *just* an athlete’s minor injuries, etc. Currently, finding an athlete’s injuries of some given status requires a full scan of the history. One solution to this is coloring each row of the history a different background color depending on the status (healed could be green, minor aggravation could be yellow, etc.).

| Date | Injury | Status |
|---------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|
| April 12th, 2013 | Torn Achilles Tendon | Beginning Rehab |
| January 3rd, 2013 | Concussion | Healed |
| August 14th, 2012 | Sprained Right Wrist | Healed |
| June 19th, 2012 | Chin Laceration | Healed |
| September 8th, 2011 | High Ankle Sprain - Left | Minor Aggravation |

Minor

Clicking on the “Select Different Body Area” tab in the “Current Program” widget on an athlete’s page when the menu options are a bunch of different body areas causes the menu to switch to the exercises related to, what appears to be, the most recently selected body area (see below). But this isn’t clear to the user because by clicking “Select Different Body Area”, the user hasn’t selected a body area. It’s not clear to the user that the “Select Different Body Area” tab behaves like a toggle. Fixing this problem enhances *learnability* since it ensures that the user model of the “Current Program” widget aligns more closely with the application’s System Model.



Minor

There is no way to directly navigate from an athlete's page to the application's home page in one click. This creates *inefficiency* in the application by increasing the number of steps the user has to take to reach the home page. Putting a "Home" option in the application's navigation bar (see below) is one solution to this problem.



Athletes ▾ Sign Out

Minor

The "Return Home" button in the "Create a New Athlete" form (see below) is not in the navigation bar. Because a user would expect navigation-related links to be in the navigation bar, *not* including the "Return Home" button in the navigation bar (and instead embedding it into the top-right of the form) violates the user's expectations and may cause *inefficiencies* whenever the user attempts to go to the application's home page from the "Create a New Athlete" form (e.g., the user initially checks the navigation bar for a "Home" button, realizes it's not there, and then fishes around the page for an alternative until stumbling upon the "Return Home" button). Adding a "Home" button to the navigation bar is one solution to this problem.



Minor

On an athlete's page, the "Injury Overview" widget (see below) should be retitled to reflect that the widget concerns the *latest* injury. By changing the title of the widget to more specifically delineate what it actually does, Easy Trainer's *learnability* is enhanced since the user

model of how Easy Trainer functions can more easily align with Easy Trainer's system model.



Minor

"Create a New Athlete" form title (see below) should be changed. When the user fills out the "Create a New Athlete" form, s/he's not *creating* a new athlete but simply adding a new athlete to Easy Trainer's database (an act reflected in the "Add Athlete" button at the bottom of the form). By changing the title of the form to be more consistent with what the user is actually doing when s/he fills out the form, Easy Trainer's *learnability* is enhanced since the user model of how Easy Trainer functions can more easily align with Easy Trainer's system model.

Create a New Athlete

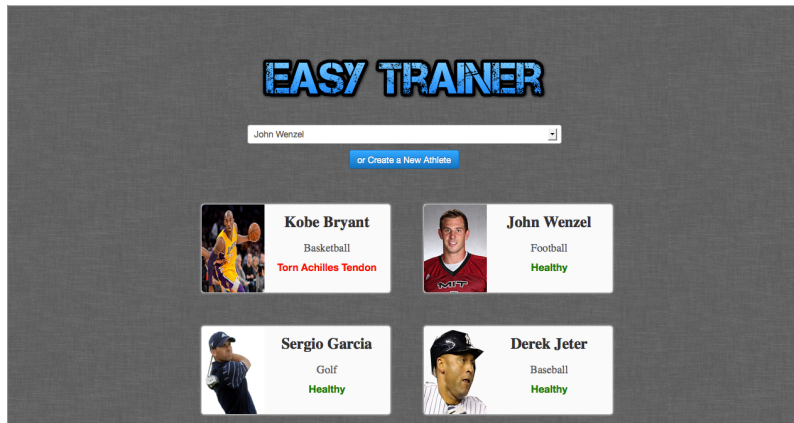
Cosmetic

The font type used for Easy Trainer's title (see below) should be changed to something more legible for the sake of good *graphic design*. In particular, the "spray-paint" splotches of black over the blue "Easy Trainer" letters make some letters hard to make out (e.g., the 'r's in "Trainer"). In addition, some letters are difficult to make out (e.g., the 'i' in "Trainer") because there's improper *kerning* between the 'i' and the 'n' in "Trainer".



Cosmetic

When Easy Trainer's home page first loads (see below), there's considerably more blank space toward the top of the page than toward the bottom of the page. This makes the home page look bottom-heavy and, thus, vertically imbalanced—a violation of good *graphic design* principle.



Cosmetic

The font type for the athletes' names and the sports they play (on the buttons in the application's home page—see below) should be changed to a non-Times New Roman font (preferably a sans-serif font to be consistent with the rest of the application). Using Times New Roman for the font type conveys a lack of “designedness” in your application, thereby violating good *graphic design* principle (as discussed in lecture).

