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Athlete Recruiting

Oz Wasserman

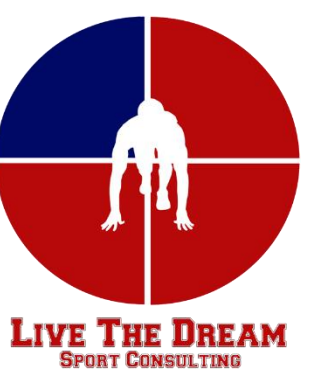
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Athlete Recruiting

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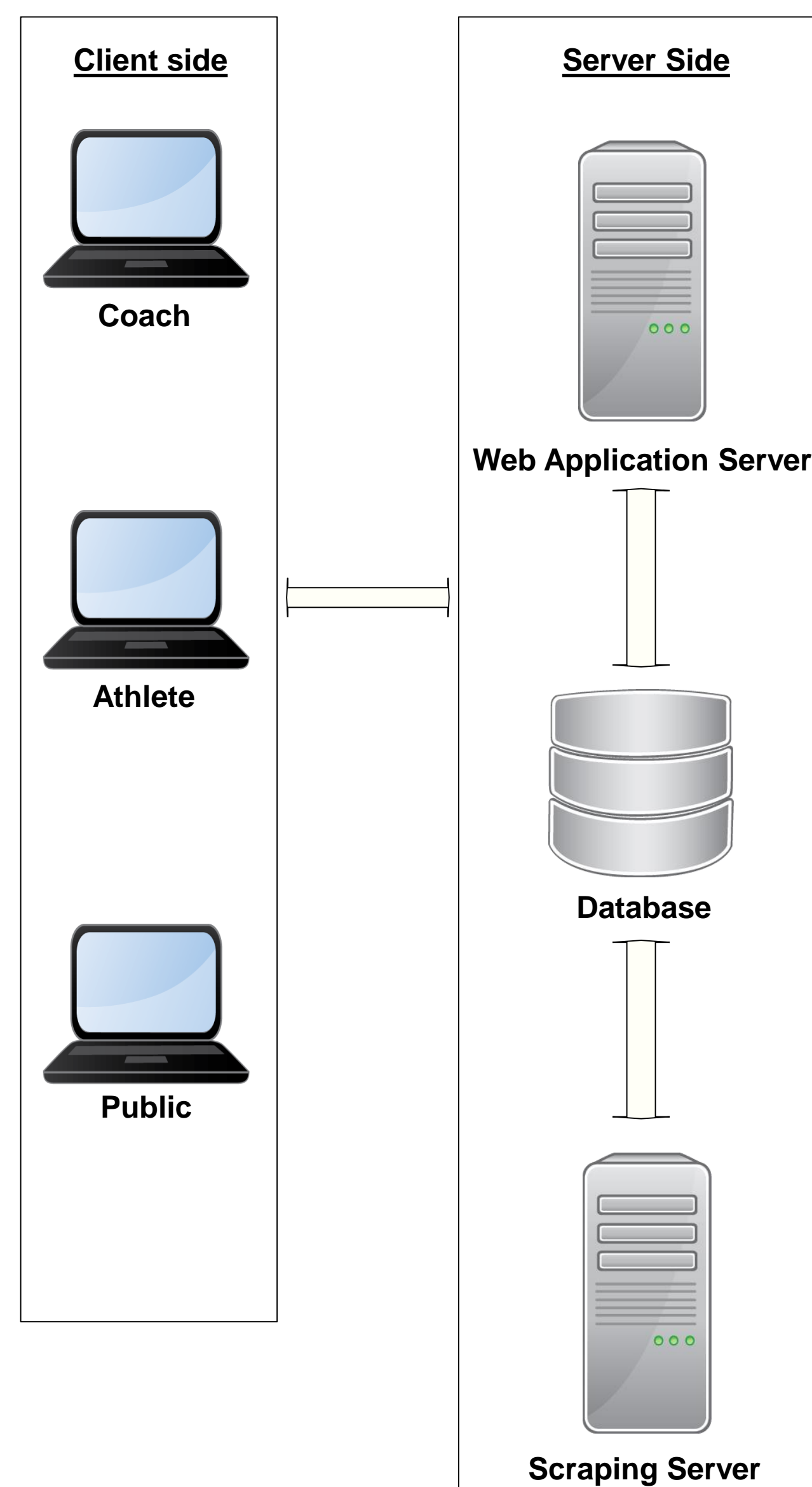
Abstract

Many athletes from all around the world have a desire to continue their athletic careers in a collegiate environment after high school. In order to do so, prospective student-athletes frequently need to go through a long, and complicated process that is difficult to navigate without help or supervision. Similarly, coaches and their staffs have recruiting challenges, which are frequently just as difficult as those faced by prospective student-athletes. The Athletic Recruiting System helps both athletes and coaches navigate this process from their unique perspectives:

- For athletes, the system is a source of information on college athletic programs, coaches, statistics, and academic programs. Additionally, it also guides the athlete on paperwork and processes required to be considered for recruitment.
- For coaches, the system provides information on prospective student-athletes, such as sport, position, performance statistics, titles, awards, plus other non-athletic information such as contact information and nationality.

Technologies and Tools

- Infrastructure
 - Red Hat Openshift
 - Cloud based infrastructure
- Web Framework
 - Django
- Scrape Engine
 - Scrapy
 - Open Source Python Scraping Engine
- Databases
 - MongoDB
 - MySQL



Scrape Engine

A side application of this project is to scrape data from universities' athletic websites. The data includes athletic and academic programs, coach details, and expected communication methods. University data is downloaded periodically by the scraping engine in order to keep the information in the system as up-to-date as possible. The scraped data is integrated into the web application, and presented to the athlete when searching for an appropriate athletic program.



Web Application

The core of the system is the Web Application - a social media system that connects athletes and coaches through the use of social media features. It stores both coach and athlete profiles, posts, pictures, stats and achievements. Users can post, message, and "like" content they find in the system. In addition, the web application guides the athlete through the process of uploading their personal and athletic data, and helps them search for the best fit athletically and academically, based on pre-defined preferences and requests.



Acknowledgments

A special thanks to Dr. Bernhard, Emanuele Rossi, Drew Bastian, Justin Andrade, Christa Prior, Douglas Bianchi, Sam Brandler

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