

Result Displayer

User Manual

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1 Introduction

This document will cover how to install and use the **Result Displayer** application as well as where to find help or assistance.

2 Launching

To launch the application simply run the *startup.bat* file. For ease of use it is recommended to add a shortcut to this file onto the Desktop. Once it is opened it will display the 5 most recent events on the screen with a number next to them and ask you which one you want. Enter the one you want and press enter.

Example:

Selection	Event	Date
1	<name>	mm/dd/yyyy
2	<name>	mm/dd/yyyy
3	<name>	mm/dd/yyyy
4	<name>	mm/dd/yyyy
5	<name>	mm/dd/yyyy

Please enter which event to display:

After that it will tell you how to connect to the results, copy one of the address it provides (*such as <http://127.0.0.1:5000/>*) into your web browser. It may be more convenient to add a bookmark to this address to your desktop.

The application is now running. Leave this window open until you are done using the application.

If the window comes up and then closes by itself then the most likely culprit is that the database path is not set correctly, refer to the **Installation** section for more information.

3 Displaying

To display the results there are several ways. One of the simplest is to have another monitor or TV connected to your PC. Open up a web browser (preferably Google Chrome) and navigate to *<http://127.0.0.1:5000>*. Then press **F11** on your keyboard to make it full screen. The results should be there and you should good to go.

There are many other ways to connect to a display, Windows 10 can wirelessly connect to compatible displays, this method will be the same as the above method but instead of a cable connecting it will be wireless. Other methods can include "casting" the browser tab to a device such as a Chromecast or Roku. If another device with a web browser is connected to the desired screen and on the same network as the application, then open a browser tab on that device and navigate to the other address provided. It will *usually* be in the form *<http://192.168.x.xxx:5000>* where the 'x' characters are replaced with the values provided to you.

4 Closing

When you are done using the application simple close the command prompt window that you launched at first and close the browser tab that is showing the results on whichever device is using it.

5 Help

For support call, text or email:

Kyle Thomas
509.590.8492
mr.kyle.thomas@gmail.com

Please include who you are, why you are contacting me and how I can get a hold of you back in any messages.

6 Installing

This section will go over installing everything the application needs to run and then cover installing the application itself.

6.1 Dependencies

Before we worry about the application itself we need to install some dependencies. The following applications will need to be installed for the **Result Displayer** to work:

- Python version 3.6+ 32bit (*We are assuming your MS Access Database is the 32bit version if it isn't then you need the 64bit version of Python*)
- Python MS Access driver (pyodbc)
- Python Flask Web Server

6.1.1 Python

To install Python go to python.org/downloads/windows. Then find the part on the page that says: **Download Windows x86 executable installer**. Make sure you do the **x86** NOT the **x86-64** download!

Once the file is downloaded open it and follow the prompts to install it.

Verify that it is installed by pressing *windows+r* and typing *cmd* in the window. Press enter to get the command prompt. Once the command prompt is open do:

```
> python --version
Python 3.6.4

>
```

If you don't get a version number like above then Python was not installed correctly.

6.1.2 pyodbc

To install the MS Access database driver open the command prompt back up (*windows+r type cmd and press enter*). Then type:

```
> pip install pyodbc
```

The pip utility should download and install the **pyodbc** libraries. Keep the command prompt open for the next dependency to install.

For more information with this dependency go to github.com/mkleehammer/pyodbc.

6.1.3 Flask

Flask is a lightweight web application framework that will display our information, to install that go back to your command prompt and type:

```
> pip install flask
```

For more information go to palletsprojects.com/p/flask.

6.2 Application installation

Now that we have our dependencies satisfied we can install the **Result Displayer**. To do that, extract the zip archive to a folder of your choice.

The application is launched via the *startup.bat* file, it may be convenient to put a shortcut to this file on the desktop.

Next we need to tell the **Result Displayer** where to find the Trakside database. To do that open up open up the file *display_database.py* with a text editor of your choice.

On line 11, change the path to where your database is:

```
r'DBQ=C:\path\to\database\database.mdb;' # Change me to your location #
```

Save and close the file, everything should be good to go.

If you would like to change the background of the application then may replace the file *background.jpg* in the *static* folder with an image of your choice. Make sure to keep the name as *background.jpg*.

If you are familiar with CSS and HTML then you can change the color scheme by editing the *static/style.css* file to a color scheme of your choice.