I’m going to summarize the speech we heard in class Wednesday by Josh Phillips. I can’t remember everything about his speech but I’ll do my best to summarize some of what he said. I took some notes during class to help me remember. I believe he started off with a general introduction of who he is and when he graduated (5 years ago in 2012.) He started working for a website after he graduated (I think it was for a car sales website? Maybe that’s wrong.) After the environment there got toxic he left, and has since started his third job where he works from home. Most of what was talked about dealt with how a project is organized and managed. He hated the waterfall organization technique he’s glad they use agile now. He specifically works in bug fixing and isn’t so involved with the product development teams. But, he’s familiar with the process. He said he loves paired programming and was essential to him becoming a senior programmer so quickly. He emphasized that code review is extremely important because it is much easier to fix software before it has gone out than it is after it has launched. He also said code maintenance is important but very time consuming.

It really surprised me how quickly he got job offers after he graduated. Hopefully that will be true with myself after graduation. He said he put his resume on dice.com and got offers within a month. I’ve gone and checked out the website out and it’s somewhere I’ll be posting my resume as well. It has an extremely active feed of job offers coming from all kinds of companies in the area, all dealing with computer science. That’s where I’ve spent my research time, and I wanted to check out what skill he said really got him hired but I couldn’t remember the name of it. Apparently though I’ll learn it in the senior seminar next semester. I’m looking forward to it! I really enjoyed listening to Josh and I think it’d be a good idea to keep bringing back alumni to share with us.