1. Tell me about your proudest professional achievement. It can also be a personal or school project.

My proudest professional achievement thus far was a school project for the Software Engineering course at UNF. I worked with a team of 3 other students to create an expanding Tic-Tac-Toe game application. The requirements for the project included: A Tic-Tac-Toe UI that allows users to click a square for their turn, an option to expand the board/victory condition (Ex: Instead of standard 3v3 board with 3 in a row victory condition, a 7x7 board with a 6 in a row victory condition), an AI with advanced intelligence the player can play against, Unit tests, multiple themes the players can choose, and a few other features.

We used React to complete the project and my main role was building the intelligent AI. I used basic logic to allow the AI to analyze the current board state and base its move off that. My AI checked for a win condition first and then if none were available would check for an opponent win condition and block. If neither of those options were on the current board state, the AI would then try to continue its closest ‘row’ to victory.

After building my AI, another team member built their own and claimed it was better and wanted to use that instead. I tested their AI and felt as if mine was the better option. I respectively discussed my testing results with that team member, and he still was not convinced. In my last effort to convince him my AI was smarter, I set up the app to have the two AI battle and the results were conclusive: My AI was smarter. This was a very respectful and fun experience for both of us as we got to trash talk and make jokes about each other’s AI. We used my AI in the final project, and it was very satisfying watching my AI destroy the opponent’s.

Overall, this project taught me so many things like React, cohesive teamwork, unit testing, and many other concepts; and I had a great time throughout it all.

1. Tell me about something you have read recently that you would recommend and why. (Can be a Github Repo, Article, Blog, Book, etc)

I enjoy reading fantasy books, and one that I have read recently is called The Black Prism by Brent Weeks. It is the first book of a four-book series called Lightbringer. It is set in a world where people can control light in specific spectrums like violet, blue, green, etc. It follows a man who can control every spectrum of light which makes him extremely powerful and influential. I would recommend this book and series because it allows you to dive into this world and get really invested in the characters and their development. If you enjoy watching tv series or movies because you like getting invested into that world, a book series is an even better way to do so because of the immense details they go into. This series also covers interesting topics like how light works, war and its consequences, and the corruption of power. I also enjoy how it follows multiple characters which allows you to view differing points of views—Everyone is their own hero and someone else’s villain.

1. How would you explain what Availity does to your grandmother?

Availity is a company that uses technology to ease the life of both doctors and health insurance companies. For example, when a person goes to their doctor for treatment, the doctor needs to know how much money it will cost the patient after insurance. That is where Availity comes in. They build websites for the insurance companies that the doctors can use to quickly and easily to figure out how much their patient’s visit or treatment will cost them.