Parke's lecture stressed the values of the ideal project manager by drawing parallels to football quarterbacks. He said that a good quarterback does not waste time looking at the fans, but focuses more on the team's success. Project managers have to do the same by establishing good communication with the team and to provide a good direction. A real-life example was if a project manager does not remained focus on the team members, they could potentially neglect tasks assigned months ago and ruin the project's process.

Continuing on this example, Parke said that the project manager does not need to be perfect, but should be able to resolve any mistakes that are likely to happen, especially ones committed by the team members. Football quarterbacks are not perfect either, but they do their best to stay resilient and to provide a great example for the rest of the team on how to perform. Just like a quarterback, a project manager who can deliver the desired results despite the challenges is ideal and important for the morale of the team. Lastly, just like quarterbacks, project managers celebrate the team's success and accomplishments.

Parke's presentation spoke highly about the Project Management Process, detailing five steps required for the evolution of a project or task. The first step is initialization, which is required to complete before the project can begin. A proposal is required in order for a company to consider a potential project. Similar to the proposal that our group project has spent the semester perfecting, it must detail the tasks based upon benefits and include an estimation of the required budget. When the proposal is eventually accepted, the team needs to prepare documents to approve the required task as selecting the Project Manager.

The second step is Planning & Launching, which defines how to approach the approved project and how to maintain ideal communication. The team defines the requirements in this step, such as the required tools, resources, and the expected tasks that each team member must accomplish. This also tells the team members how to tackle their tasks to ensure the expected quality. To help maintain order, the team should create a schedule to set reasonable deadlines for each phase of the task. Importantly, the team has to prepare for all task risks that may arise such as technical, schedule, budget, or other conflicts.

The third step is Execution, where all of the planning goes into practice. All of the team member's capabilities are important to know so that the Project Manager can properly divide the workload. Like from the quarterback example, the Project Manager must maintain communication with the rest of the team, preferably in person, to ensure that no one neglects deadlines or expectations. If necessary, the team must find mentors, especially ones with a vast experience in the field, to consult and seek guidance to help cover weaknesses that the team as a whole cannot handle on their own. If the team experiences a failure, it ideally should happen early into the Project Management Process without a crippling cost to help prevent bigger problems later on.

The fourth step is Monitoring, which ensures that the project is progressing as desired. Using methods such as Microsoft Project, the Project Manager should be ensuring that tasks on the schedule finish and comparing actual outcomes with predicted ones. This step will also help capture adjustments needed for the next proposal.

The fifth and final step is Closure, which is done near the completion of the project. This will verify that all of the required tasks are done. In addition, that the team confirms that they finish any financial or administrative responsibilities remaining.