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Reflection Paper

Brian started his speech by introducing himself. He works for Rawlings, which is located in Elizabethtown, Kentucky. He was hired on by Rawlings to rebuild the company from the ground up. Rawlings has a bunch of information stored on databases including health information on 80% of the population. Before becoming employed at Rawlings, he was working for Kindred. Kindred used Sunbelt PL/b for a year then switched to FairCom C-Tree. Kindred used Oracle for OLAP and data warehousing. Kindred used a SQL server with OLTP. When writing code at Kindred, Brian had to put in as much business logic as he could. The problem was, it wasn’t testable. He then added tests to everything to test what was pulled out of methods. Brian also informed us that No SQL, which are non-relational databases, actually stands for “Not Only” SQL.

Brian’s speech made me more interested in database design, but didn’t change my opinion on IT. Brian made me realize how vital databases are to a company. They have to be well maintained and are always changing like the rest of the IT field. Now I am aware of how much web development actually correlates with databases. He also made me realize how OLTP can be used to speed up the database management process.

After his speech, I am considering taking another Database class. This will help me understand this field even better. However, I am still wanting to go on the Web Development track. Web development interests me more than any of the other fields in IT/CIS. I want to be able to develop applications. Working with electronics and especially writing code is what makes me tick. I would love to develop applications that could help improve humanity. Therefore, Brian’s speech definitely made me more interested in databases, but did change my opinion on IT.