

PUI HW8

# **Implementing a Web Portfolio/ Tool Project (Final Project Pt. 2)**

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[GitHub Repo Link](#)

[Live Website Link](#)

## Part 1

The primary design of my portfolio to showcase my work and skills to prospective recruiters. With the job hunting season coming up in the Spring semester, I hope to work on and improve this website after submission to make a proper portfolio.

I hope to convey not just my skills but an aspect of my personality as any job hunt includes not just a talent fit but also a personality fit. Beyond just the visual style, the about page and the landing should do a good job of conveying this information.

To be engaging and interesting the website includes a custom cursor that transforms contextually for both feedforward and wow-factor.

Content wise, the website covers my history, personality, recent projects as well as contact information.

## Part 2

- There is a custom cursor that replaces the default cursor. With a ring and a dot element, it animates as you move the cursor. It can be experienced by simply moving the cursor across the screen.
- The custom cursor has a contextual response, turning white or teal and expanding when mousing over an interactive element. Unlike a default cursor where the feed-forward of interactivity is only on the hovered element, in this case, even the cursor creates a very prominent animation to showcase interactivity. This can be reproduced on any page by mousing over an interactive element.
- The portfolio list and each portfolio page includes a back to top button at the bottom which allows users to return to the top of the page with a single click. This can be reproduced by scrolling to the bottom of any page and tapping on the "Back to top" button.
- As a feed-forward and as a starting mechanism, the portfolio list and each portfolio page includes a scroll down to see more button which indicates the presence of content below the fold as well as jumps the user down to the relevant content when clicked. This can be reproduced by tapping any "See more content" unit on any of the aforementioned pages.
- As a wow-factor interaction, each page on desktop view has a monogram logo in the background that has a mouse over interaction with the cursor that animates as the cursor moves. This can be reproduced by simply moving the cursor over any empty part of any page.

## Part 3

### React

- I chose to use React as I wanted to take the opportunity to familiarize myself with it. Additionally, given the way I wanted to build the page and the contextual cursor implementation, the constant state management of React felt like it was a very useful feature.
- I used React to build my pages modularly so when shifting between portfolio list and portfolio piece, the rest of the elements (nav, logo, background) would not have to be reloaded. This makes performance better when dealing with loading image heavy pages. Also the global state management possible with React let me break down the contextual cursor so I could easily trigger custom cursor effects from each component without having to write a lot of code in the cursor.js itself.
- React helps add performance, modularity and flexibility to my website. All three project pages are the exact same code generated on the fly from React templates, drawing information from which link sent the user to that page.

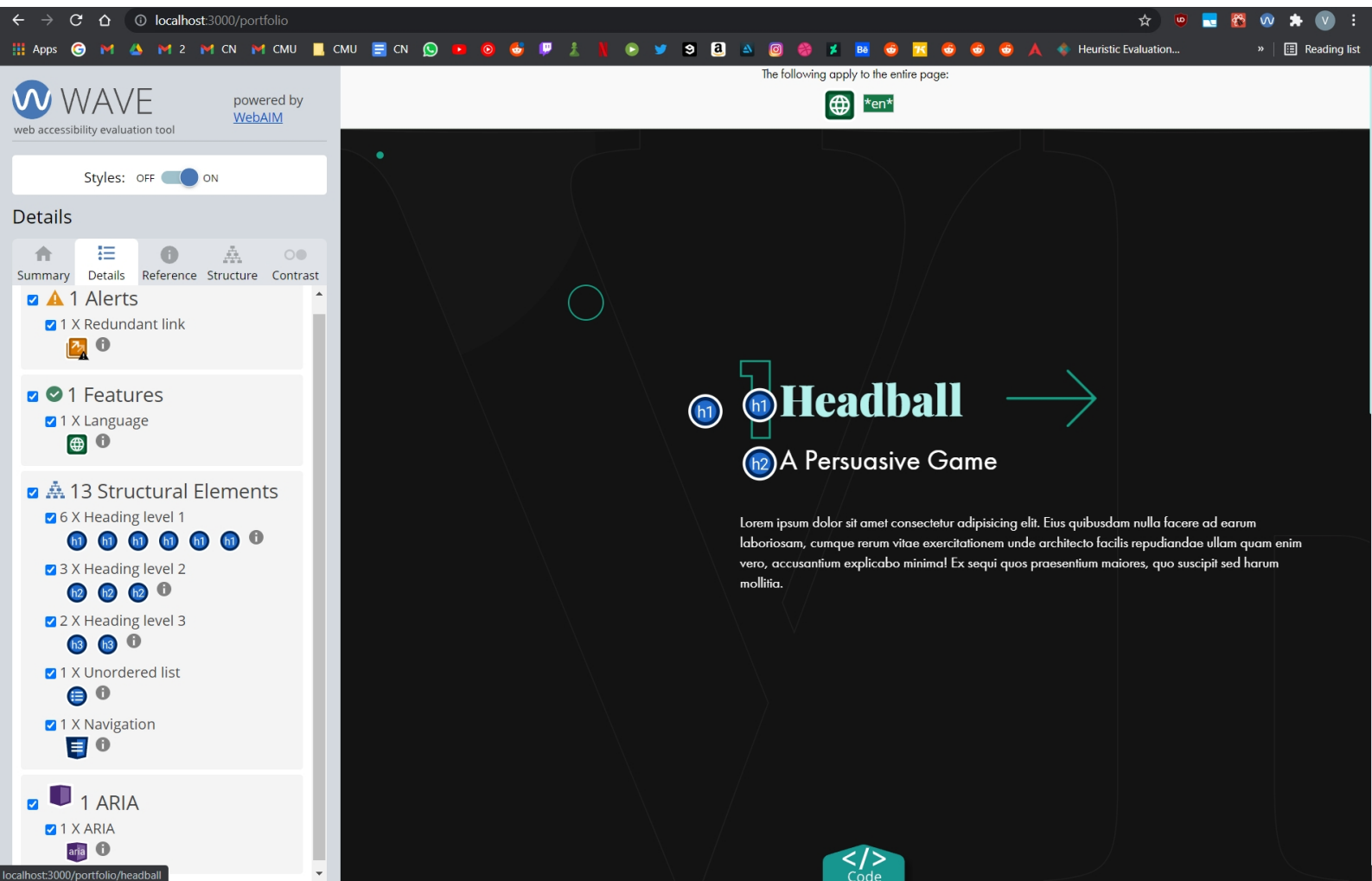
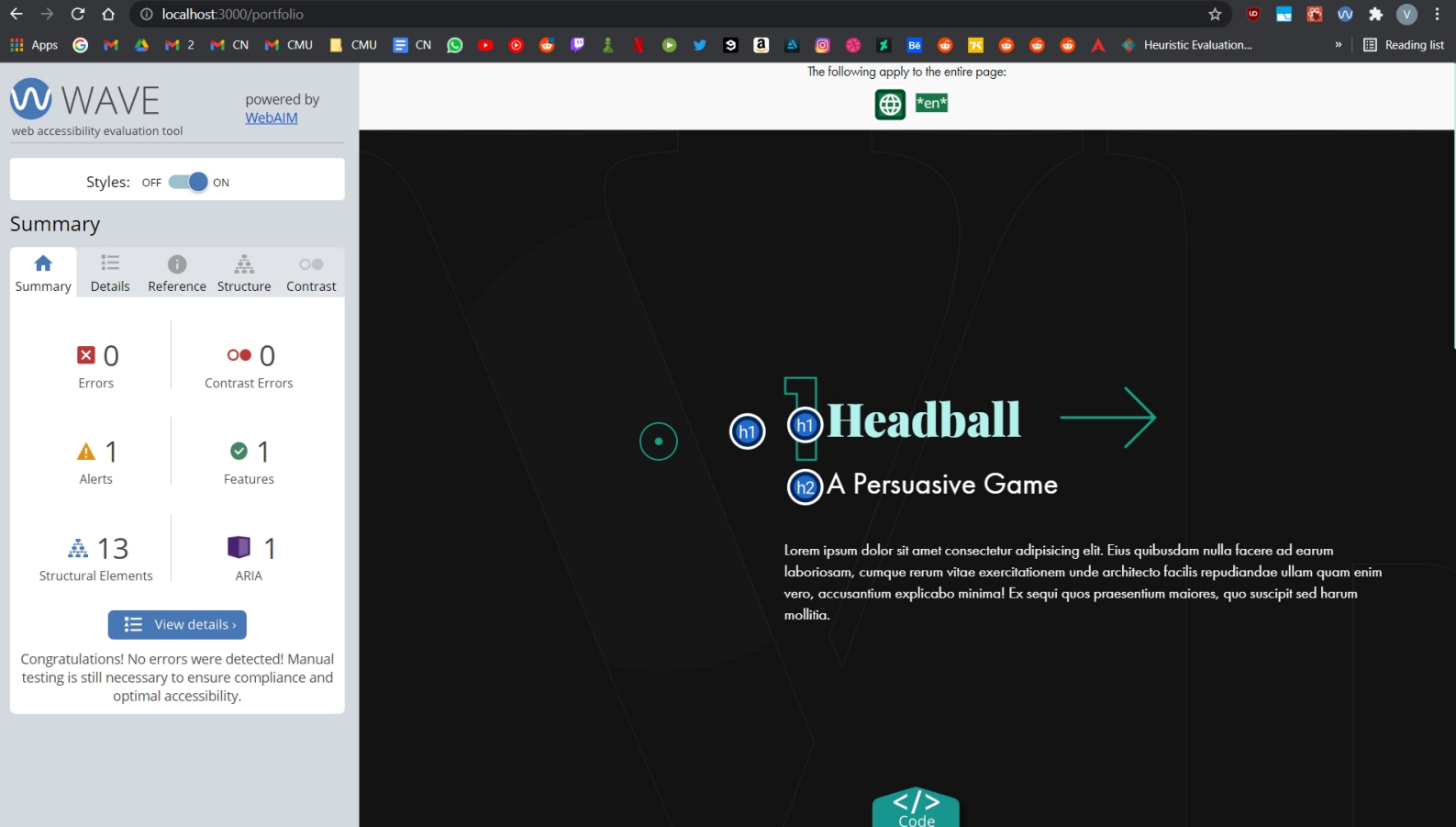
## Part 4

A lot changed in my design from HW7. Beyond surface level changes like the primary color, the biggest change was the functionality of the project listing page. Initially, it was controlled by two buttons that scrolled between the projects but I felt that this was against expected behavior. So I redesigned the page to be scrollable instead. The project page itself was redesigned from scratch to be more effective in communicating the problem space and solution in few lines compared to the original design to account for the business of recruiting managers.

## Part 5

Working with React after a long time, I faced a number of implementation issues, most of them stemming from lack of familiarity. However, the biggest issues I faced were with a second plugin I was using (GSAP) which while effective in animation, led to severe performance issues for the custom cursor. I solved this by shifting from GSAP to Animate-on-Scroll.

**WAVE screenshots on next page**



localhost:3000/portfolio

WAVE powered by WebAIM  
web accessibility evaluation tool

Styles: OFF ON

Structure

Summary Details Reference Structure Contrast

Navigation

- h1 Headball
- h1 1
- h2 A Persuasive Game
- h1 Snacc on PennMac
- h1 2
- h2 A Service Innovation
- h1 Placeholder
- h1 3
- h2 Probably a cool project
- h3 Scroll down to see more
- h3 Back to Top

The following apply to the entire page:

\*en\*

# Headball

## A Persuasive Game

Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet consectetur adipiscing elit. Eius quibusdam nulla facere ad earum laboriosam, cumque rerum vitae exercitationem unde architecto facilis repudiandae ullam quam enim vero, accusantium explicabo minimal Ex sequi quos praesentium maiores, quo suscipit sed harum mollitia.

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Code