



The CyberSentinel

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Program Office Bits

Teams that did not qualify for the Semifinals or National Finals Competition can compete in the State Recognition Round on Feb 21-23.

**National Finals Competition:
March 26-30, 2014**

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Commissioner's Cache

Wow, can you believe it? We are at the halfway point of the CP-VI season, and things are hopping! The first three rounds were qualification rounds, but the next three rounds are the fun AWARDS rounds. All high school teams that did not qualify as National Finalists compete in the State Recognition Round, February 21-23, for their state awards. The top teams in the State Recognition Round will move on to the Regional Recognition Round, March 7-9, to compete for region awards. The CyberPatriot VI National Finals Competition will be held March 26-29 in the Washington, D.C., area.



During a challenging Semifinals, 12 Open Division, 14 All Service Division, and two Middle School Division teams earned the title of National Finalist. We congratulate them! Over 50% of this season's National Finalist teams will be new to The National Finals Competition — And 14 states and one Canadian province will be represented. Our thanks to all of our Coaches and Mentors who continue to spend countless hours guiding their teams to ensure that they compete safely and fairly.

Good luck to all teams in the awards rounds. CyberPatriot is the premier National Youth Cyber Education Program and it is all because of you!

Bernard K. Skoch
Commissioner
CyberPatriot Program
Air Force Association



Semifinals End; State Round Open to All CP-VI Teams*

The CyberPatriot VI Semifinals, held January 17-19, 2013, was one of the most challenging online competition rounds in CyberPatriot history. Three difficult images, extensive forensics questions, and the first online Cisco Networking Challenge provided for an exciting round of competition. The 106 Semifinalist teams hit their keyboards hard and fast in search of a slot in The National Finals Competition.

Civil Air Patrol's Jacksonville, Florida, Composite Squadron was the first team to take the challenge on Friday morning, January 17. By 6 pm Eastern Time it was apparent the competition was tough. No team scored a maximum score on the CyberPatriot Competition System (CCS) and almost all teams worked until they were close to the end of their six-hour competition periods. The last teams of the day signed off of CCS around midnight Eastern Time. Saturday and Sunday's competition windows were repeats of Friday. In the end no team scored a perfect score on CCS or the Cisco Networking Challenge.

When the results of the Semifinals were calculated, more than 50 percent of the National Finalist teams were new to The National Finals Competition. For the first time a Canadian team earned a place in the Open Division, and 14 states were represented. For the first time in two seasons, no school district dominated the National Finalist teams.

Now that the Semifinals are over, all high school teams that are not National Finalists may participate in the State Recognition Round February 21-23, 2014. The round is a chance for teams to compete with a clean slate for state awards — three each in the Open and All Service Divisions for each state and the overseas region. From there highest scoring teams in each Division for each state and overseas region will compete in the Regional Recognition Round, March 7-9, 2014.

* Except National Finalist and Middle School Teams

Team Award Hierarchy

National Champion	★★★★★
National Runner-Up	★★★★
National Third Place	★★★
National Finalist	★★★★
Regional Winner	★★★
Regional Runner-Up	★★
Regional Third Place	★
Regional Honoree	★★
First Place State Awardee	★
Second Place State Awardee	★
Third Place State Awardee	★



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Cyber Crime Scene Challenge Returns in Less Than 2 Months!



Thanks to the support from the US Cyber Crime Conference, the Cyber Crime Scene Challenge will be returning to the CyberPatriot VI National Finals Competition in March 2014! There will be three digital crime scenes for the CyberPatriot teams to process during the Finals, with results representing 10 percent of participant's final scores.

The US Cyber Crime Conference will be held at the National Conference Center in Leesburg, Virginia, from April 27 to May 2, 2014. For more information, visit www.usacybercrime.com.

North Hollywood High School



Los Angeles Competitors from North Hollywood High School's CyberPatriot teams pose with their Coach Jay Gehringer (center-left) and Cisco Mentor Ray Aragon (center-right). Team Azure from North Hollywood earned a place in the CyberPatriot National Finals Competition. Based on his positive experience mentoring the North Hollywood teams, Aragon arranged for Cisco online networking training for all CyberPatriot teams in December 2013. The training had more than 250 attendees from across the country.



Don't forget to vote for your favorite submission of the CP-VI Video Contest! Voting will open on Monday, Feb. 3 and will end on Friday, Feb. 7. Videos will be posted on the CyberPatriot Facebook page (www.facebook.com/CyberPatriot). The video that receives the most "Likes" at the end of the voting period will be the winner!

CP-VI Competitors Honored for Computing Achievements

Congratulations to the following young women for being recognized for their outstanding aptitude in computing and technology:



Angela Cheng (Grissom High School, Al.): Alabama Affiliate Award Winner and national runner-up for the National Center for Women & Information Technology's (NCWIT) Aspirations in Computing Award.

Victoria Chu (El Segundo High School, Ca.): recipient of the 2014 NCWIT award for Aspirations in Computing in Southern California and a national runner-up recipient for the national 2014 NCWIT award for Aspirations in Computing.

Both Victoria's and Angela's CP teams have qualified for this season's National Finals. Great job, girls!

For more information, visit <https://www.aspirations.org/>

Coaches' Corner

- **Online Coaches' and Mentors' Meetings.** This month's Coaches' Meetings are a great time to ask any questions about the competition before the State Recognition Round and National Finals. The first two meetings will provide round details in a slideshow with questions afterward. The third meeting will have a shorter slide presentation and focus on questions from participants of all experience levels. Information on joining these meetings will be emailed to all registered Coaches and Mentors in the coming week. Below is the February meeting schedule.
 - Feb. 11 — 3:30 pm EDT/2:30 pm CDT/12:30 pm PDT
 - Feb. 12 — 4:30 pm EDT/3:30 pm CDT/1:30 pm PDT
 - Feb. 12 — 9:00 pm EDT/8:00 pm CDT/6:00 pm PDT
- **Team Certificates.** All Semifinalist teams will be receiving a team certificate in the mail. The certificates are expected to be sent out prior to Feb. 14.
- **National Finalists.** If your team qualified for The National Finals Competition, please submit the following information as soon as possible:
 - Legal name and birth date of everyone (adults included) who will attend the National Finals
 - Grade level and career aspirations for the competitors traveling to The National Finals Competition
 - Team photo (clothing your choice— Team shirts or uniforms)
 - High-res (EPS) and regular-res (JPEG) version of the school or organization's logo
 - Competitor names as to appear on personal certificate

Congratulations to the CyberPatriot VI National Finalists!

Here they are, your CyberPatriot VI National Finalists! On March 26-30, these top 28 teams— 12 Open Division, 14 All Service Division, and for the first time ever the top two Middle School Division— will go head to head for a chance to earn the title of National Champion. We are also pleased to announce that this will be the first National Finals in which an international team will be competing.

Open High School Division

Organization Name	Coach Name	City	State
COE-LAX/North Hollywood High School Azure	Jay Gehringer	North Hollywood	CA
COE-SAT/Alamo Academies 6	Sandi Boyd	New Braunfels	TX
CT Defenders	Nick Gaunt	Cushing	OK
El Segundo High School	Jennifer Cho	El Segundo	CA
Grissom High School	Christine Sutton	Huntsville	AL
Marshall Academy	Jason Simeon	Falls Church	VA
Palos Verdes Peninsula Panthers - Team 2	Hassan Twiet	Anaheim	CA
Park Tudor School - 2	Bryon Realey	Indianapolis	IN
Rangeview High School	Randy Mills	Aurora	CO
Sisler High School	Nick Dixon	Winnipeg	MB
Summit Technology Academy - 0	Lisa Oyler	Lee's Summit	MO
Summit Technology Academy - 1	Lisa Oyler	Lee's Summit	MO

All Service Division

Organization Name	Organization Type	Coach Name	City	State
Clearfield High School / UT-081	Air Force JROTC	Kit Workman	Clearfield	UT
Lee's Summit North High School	Air Force JROTC	John Deese	Lee's Summit	MO
Buena High School	Army JROTC	Monty McDaniel	Sierra Vista	AZ
Winter Springs High School Bear Battalion	Army JROTC	John Bennett	Winter Springs	FL
Patrick Henry High School	Navy JROTC	John Wood	San Diego	CA
Troy NJROTC	Navy JROTC	Warren Barnes	Fullerton	CA
Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School	Marine Corps JROTC	Paul Jornet	Fitchburg	MA
Marine Military Academy	Marine Corps JROTC	William Beckman	Harlingen	TX
Beach Cities Squadron 107 Knights	Civil Air Patrol	Mark Williams	San Pedro	CA
Big Sioux Composite Squadron	Civil Air Patrol	Tyler Gross	Brookings	SD
Centurion Battalion	Naval Sea Cadet Corps	Ken Steffey	Longwood	FL
Fort Fisher Division	Naval Sea Cadet Corps	Joseph Gombos	San Diego	CA
Parkway High School / LA-071	Wild Card— Air Force JROTC	Bob O'Brien	Bossier City	LA
Colorado Springs Cadet Squadron	Wild Card— Civil Air Patrol	Bill Blatchley	Colorado Springs	CO

Middle School Division

Organization Name	Coach Name	City	State
Beach Cities Squadron 107 Knights	Mark Williams	San Pedro	CA
Marine Military Academy - Middle School	William Beckman	Harlingen	TX

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Northrop Grumman Cyber Team Takes First Place in DC3's Digital Forensics Challenge

By Marynoele Benson, Northrop Grumman

For cyber professionals, competitions don't end in high school or college; they remain a valuable way to keep skills fresh.

Just ask a team of cyber engineers from Northrop Grumman, who recently won the overall "Grand Champion" title in the Defense Cyber Crime Center's (DC3) eighth annual Digital Forensics Challenge. The Northrop Grumman winners, who were announced by DC3 in December 2013, earned this prestigious title for the second consecutive year.

"We are very proud of our world-class team of cyber professionals who have proven the importance of rapid innovation to address the ever-changing cyber threat," said Jim Myers, vice president and general manager, Cyber Solutions Division, Northrop Grumman Information Systems, and member of the Air Force Association CyberPatriot Board of Advisors. "This competition validates the breadth and depth of talent we have at Northrop Grumman and reconfirms our continued commitment to cyber workforce development."

The global challenge is a call to the digital forensics community to pioneer new investigative tools, techniques and methodologies that address the dynamic cyber threat.

"Throughout your career, professional competitions pose a great opportunity to sharpen skills in certain focus areas, like

forensics," said Diane Miller, Northrop Grumman program director for CyberPatriot. "The foundational training gained from participation in CyberPatriot will position students to succeed and continue to grow in the fast-paced world of cyberspace."

In addition to earning the top spot as Grand Champion, the Northrop Grumman team once again took first place in the U.S. and commercial categories. The company's team is the only U.S. team to have taken first place in the overall competition since it was opened to international participants in 2009.

The ten-and-a-half-month contest started in December 2012. The challenge consisted of 41 individual scenario-based exercises organized into five levels of difficulty. They ranged from basic digital forensics, or "novice-level," to "developer-level," where advanced tool development was required to solve the exercise and earn points. Teams were free to select which of the exercises to work on and submit for grading. The following is a link to the DC3 challenge leader board: <http://www.dc3.mil/challenge/2013/stats/leaderboard.php>.

Northrop Grumman team members researched solutions and, in some cases, developed new techniques to solve specific problems. This year, the team focused on forensics tool development exercises, Windows system forensics, as well as encryption.

NORTHROP GRUMMAN

Sponsor Spotlight: AT&T Foundation

A HUGE thank you to the AT&T Foundation for their generous grant of \$25,000 for AFA's CyberPatriot Program!



Their grant will play an important role in funding the anticipated program expansions set to roll out by the summer of 2014. We appreciate all of the support we've received from the AT&T Foundation, most notably an abundant supply of Air Cards, and we look forward to their continued support in the future!



Happy 16th birthday to CyberPatriot Competitor Justin, and congratulations on having the coolest birthday cake we have ever seen!

This Month in Cyber History

On Feb. 1, 2004, an estimated one million computers infected with the MyDoom virus began the virus's massive distributed denial of service (DoS) attack. When executed, the worm opened up Windows' Notepad with garbage data in it. When spreading, the infectious email used to distribute the worm copies used variable subjects, bodies and attachment names. At the time, it was the fastest spreading computer worm and the worst ever email form incident in virus history.



For more information, go to: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mydoom>

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