

Oh no! 6 more
weeks of winter!

The CyberSentinel

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Commissioner's Cache



What a season! January online rounds were nail-biters! In fact, scores were SO close that Regional and Category tier placements and advancement to the National Finals Competition came down to a very few undiscovered vulnerabilities and the Cisco Networking Challenge scores. But, we didn't expect less. From the CP-VII challenging qualification rounds to your outstanding performance in the January rounds, this year's teams raised the bar for the competition. Congratulations to all of our Regional and Category award-ees and to our National Finalist teams!

Now it's on to the Presidents' Day Weekend Open, Feb. 13-15, where you ALL can show your skills at networking one last time this season (and even try your hand at digital forensics!). Our sponsors Cisco and Leidos have graciously agreed to provide awards for the winning teams of this special event.

If we could, we would have all teams compete in the CyberPatriot VII National Finals Competition, March 11-15, in the Washington, D.C., area, but, unfortunately only 28 teams can attend, and we congratulate them. We are excited that 15 states and a Canadian province will be represented. Thank you ALL for making this season our best so far, and special thanks to our Coaches and Mentors for devoting untold hours and effort to preparing their teams.

Good luck in the Presidents' Day Weekend Open and congratulations to all of our winners!

Bernard K. Koch
National Commissioner
CyberPatriot
Air Force Association



Program Office Bits

Presidents' Day Weekend Open:
Feb. 13-15

National Finals Competition:
March 11-15

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National Finalist Teams Named! (see page 3)

Regional Round Ends in Close Contest — Cisco Deciding Factor; President's Day Weekend Open Up Next (see page 2)

When the Regional Round began on Jan. 16, few could have imagined the suspense that would follow for the more than 450 teams that competed. Regional and Category awards were up for grabs and every high school Platinum Tier team and middle school Semifinalist team had hopes of becoming a National Finalist.

Multiple high school and middle school teams jockeyed in and out of the top positions on the CyberPatriot Scoreboard. In a last push, 116 teams competed into the last 10 minutes of their six-hour competition period, waiting until the very end to shutdown their systems. For most the risk paid off.

But disaster struck some teams to include an

Open Division's Platinum Tier team. The team had an issue with their image not scoring after the five and a half hour mark. The team members decided to delete the image and start over with zero points because they felt they could make up their score and earn more points. The team members worked quickly, but failed to recover their points before the team's six-hour competition period ended. The team's score was less than it was before they deleted the original image. At that point the team fell out of contention for advancement to the National Finals Competition.

The Middle School Division Semifinalists fought it out. Placement of teams were in doubt until the end. The top teams passed the lead back and forth until two teams from New Jersey and a team from Virginia came out on top.

In the end, though only worth 20% of the total

score, the Cisco Networking Challenge determined whether teams won awards or could advance to the National Finals Competition. And that team that had the issue with gaining their points back on the restarted image? They won a spot in the National Finals Competition!



The Parkway Middle School CyberGals of Lauderdale, FL, take a quick break from the competition to show off their CyberSwag! Pictured from left to right: Valerie, Codi, Tashadeen, Samantha & Anquinette.



Presidents' Day Weekend Open coming Feb. 13-15



The Presidents' Day Weekend event is open to ALL registered CyberPatriot teams and performance will have no impact on CyberPatriot VII standings. There are no images this round. Rather, the round consists of a Leidos Digital Forensics Challenge and a Cisco Networking Challenge. In general, rules that govern the main CyberPatriot season also apply to the Presidents' Day Weekend Open;

however, a few minor differences apply. Rules for the Open are below.

- Teams may compete in ONE or BOTH challenges. Awards are separate.
- All challenges must be deleted by 10:00 pm Eastern Time on Feb. 15.
- Teams have a six-hour period to complete EACH challenge. The Digital Forensics and Networking Challenges do not need to be completed in the same six-hour period.
- Teams may have only one instance of each challenge opened at a time.
- If your image(s) cannot reach <http://cisco.netacad.com> or any of the websites listed in the Digital Forensics section below, please contact your IT department or network administrator.
- Teams are NOT required to maintain a persistent Internet connection while competing.

Presidents' Day Competition Windows. During the event, teams may compete during the three windows below. These windows may be expanded based on Practice Round participation.

- Friday, Feb. 13 — 9:00 am ET - 6:00 pm ET
- Saturday, Feb. 14 — 9:00 am ET - 6:00 pm ET
- Sunday, Feb. 15 — 9:00 am ET - 6:00 pm ET

Awards will be sent to the top three teams in each of the Open, All Service, and Middle School Divisions.



New Acts to Protect Internet Users

According to the White House, "recent polls show that 9 in 10 Americans feel they have in some way lost control of their personal information — and that can lead to less interaction with technology, less innovation, and a less productive economy." Especially after the crippling Sony hacking incident, the White House has recognized the need for government agencies and



companies' to implement stronger cyber security measures. In the State of the Union Address, President Obama outlined executive actions and new legislative proposals to safeguard consumers and their families and heighten cybersecurity vigilance in companies and government agencies.

The Personal Data Notification and Protection Act would hold companies accountable to notify their customers within 30 days when their personal information has been compromised due to a breach. In addition, the bill proposes to criminalize the overseas trade of identity information.

The Student Digital Privacy Act would prevent education companies from collecting student data and selling it to third parties. The White House also garnered outside support from 75 education companies who have pledged their commitment to protect teachers, parents, and students from misuse of data. These proposals will be passed to Congress.

Sources: <http://www.whitehouse.gov/>, <http://thehill.com/policy/cybersecurity/>

Coaches' Corner

- **Online Coaches' and Mentors' Meetings.** Coaches' Meetings are a great time to ask any questions before the upcoming Presidents' Day event! The first meeting will provide details in a slideshow, with a question and answer session afterward. The second 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 Coaches and Mentors a week before the first meeting.

- Tues., Feb. 10 — 4:30 pm ET/3:30 pm CT/1:30 pm PT
- Thurs., Feb. 12 — 9:00 pm ET/8:00 pm CT/6:00 pm PT

- **Participant Kits.** All participant kits have been shipped as of Jan. 13, 2015. Each Coach, Competitor, and linked Mentor/Team Assistant will receive a t-shirt, coin, lapel pin, pen, sunglasses, USB mouse, and certificate. Coaches with multiple teams will be sent one box with enough gear for all teams. To check the status of your order, [click here](#). If you have any questions, please contact Rebecca Dalton at info@uscyberpatriot.org or call the CyberPatriot hotline at 877-885-5716.

The CyberSentinel

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Spotlight on CyberPatriot VII National Finalists

OPEN DIVISION

Organization Name	City	State
Grissom High School – Team CyberSloths	Huntsville	AL
Franklin High School	Los Angeles	CA
North Hollywood High School – Team Azure	North Hollywood	CA
North Hollywood High School – Team Silver	North Hollywood	CA
Sisler High School	Winnipeg	Canada
Highlands Ranch High School	Highlands Ranch	CO
Pinckney Community High School – Team A	Pinckney	MI
Summit Technology Academy – Team Sudo	Lee's Summit	MO
Red Bank Regional High School – Team Maroon	Litter Silver	NJ
La Cueva High School – Team Bears 1	Albuquerque	NM
Central Technology Center– Team 2	Cushing	OK
Marshall Academy – Team 3	Falls Church	VA

ALL SERVICE

Category	Organization Name	City	State
Air Force JROTC	Lee's Summit North High School – Team CyberBroncos	Lee's Summit	MO
Air Force JROTC	Lee's Summit North High School – Team CyberWarriors	Lee's Summit	MO
Army JROTC	New Century Technology High School – Team Alpha	Huntsville	AL
Army JROTC	Winter Springs High School – Team CyberBears 1	Winter Springs	FL
Civil Air Patrol	Colorado Springs Cadet Squadron	Colorado Springs	CO
Civil Air Patrol	Cedar Rapids Composite Squadron NCR-IA-129	Swisher	IA
Civil Air Patrol	Big Sioux Composite Squadron – Team Big Sioux	Brookings	SD
Marine Corps JROTC	Monty Tech – Team Marine Raiders	Fitchburg	MA
Marine Corps JROTC	Marine Military Academy	Harlingen	TX
Naval Sea Cadet Corps	Fort Fisher Division	San Diego	CA
Naval Sea Cadet Corps	NWS Earle Division – Team Alpha	Leonardo	NJ
Navy JROTC	Convington High School – Team Kernel Panic	Covington	LA
Navy JROTC	W.B. Ray High School – Team 1	Corpus Christi	TX

MIDDLE SCHOOL

Organization Name	City	State
Markham Place School – Team 1	Little Silver	NJ
Markham Place School – Team 2	Little Silver	NJ
Nysmith School for the Gifted – Team 1	Herndon	VA



Congratulations to the 28 CyberPatriot VII National Finalists teams, representing 15 states and Canada! From March 11-15, these teams will be competing in a series of cyber challenges for a chance earn scholarships and, of course, bragging rights for winning the title of National Champion. We wish them the best of luck in what will undoubtedly be the biggest and best National Finals competition ever held!

CAN'T WAIT TO SEE YOU THERE!

HS Internships are just the beginning for CyberPatriots at Northrop Grumman...

By Marynoele Benson, Northrop Grumman



Aaron Batilo

If you're looking for CyberPatriot success stories, we've got a lot. One in particular is Aaron Batilo, now a junior computer science major at the University of Colorado, Colorado Springs. Aaron, a former CyberPatriot and high school intern for the company in Aurora, is now a college intern who was offered an opportunity to continue part-time while in school. This past summer, he received his security clearance and was able to support one of Northrop Grumman's programs in the area. Aaron did software development work and helped configure and deploy a new development effort.

"Aaron also served as a support system to the CyberPatriot interns, mentoring and guiding them on resolving problems with code," said his manager, Tami Stangl. "He has learned so much through his internship and school that he took on the task of teaching the Fundamentals of Cyber Security track at Northrop Grumman's STEM / Cybersecurity Camp held for high school students last summer."

Batilo says the ability to juggle multiple tasks at once is one of the most important things he has learned as an intern the past four summers. Plus, he has learned to work in groups. "Group projects have always been kind of daunting, to say the least," he says. "Through these internships I've learned a lot about taking a leadership role and working together."

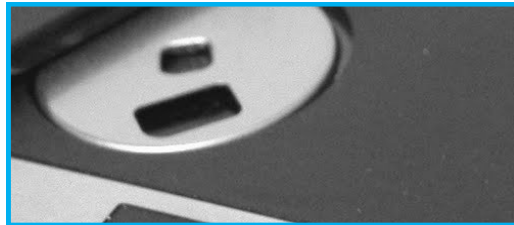
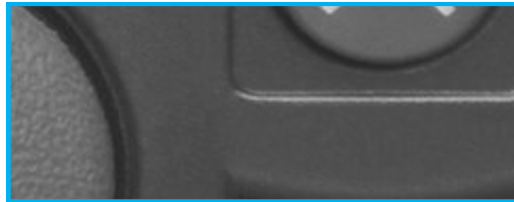
"CyberPatriot really gave me a good understanding of the opportunities available in the tech world," he says. "With the competition and the internships, I was really exposed to a lot of options and variety in the work I can do." Does he recommend these internships? "The opportunities here are endless," Batilo says. "The people are friendly, the work is interesting, and everyone is here to help you to grow as a person."

For more information about the intern program go to: <http://www.northropgrumman.com/Careers/StudentsAndNewGrads/Pages/Cyberpatriot.aspx>

Opportunities for this year's CyberPatriots will be available soon at the following link and enter "CyberPatriot" in the keyword field: https://ngc.taleo.net/careersection/ngc_coll/jobsearch.ftl?lang=en

NAME THAT THING!

The following images are close up shots of tech items, some new, some old. Can you figure out what items are being pictured below?



Answers: A. Mouse B. RAM C. Play Station controller 4. Floppy Disk

This Month in Cyber History



Feb. 19, 1971 — The first warrant was issued to search a computer storage device. Although the requirements for obtaining such a warrant were similar to those for searching a home, they ushered in a new era that would lead to increasingly sophisticated methods of encryption to hide computer files from law enforcement agents.

For more information, visit:

www.computerhistory.org/tdih/February/19/

Presenting Sponsor



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