



The CyberSentinel

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Commissioner's Cache



What an exciting time this is for CyberPatriot and our many participants! Round 1 of CP-VII had a record breaking number of participants and scores were even higher than last year, and that is no doubt a tribute to our superb Coaches and Mentors. Along with US and Canadian teams, 12 of the United Kingdom's CyberCenturion teams competed in their first-ever competition right alongside CyberPatriot teams. Special thanks to Northrop Grumman's Ms. Diane Miller for officially kicking off the round with a magic keystroke!

Open and All Service Divisions' Round 2 are next up Nov. 14-16. And for the first time ever, teams will have a Cisco Networking Quiz, worth 10 percent of their scores. The Middle School Division Round 1 will be held the same weekend (without the Cisco Networking Quiz). Remember that ALL TEAMS all encouraged to compete in Round 2 and the State Round, even if they had to miss an earlier round.

And let's all remember that CyberPatriot could not exist without the generous support of our Presenting Sponsor the Northrop Grumman Foundation and our many other sponsors. They care about you, and they care about our nation! Be sure and thank them. Good luck to all of you. See you in Round 2!

Bernard K. Skoch
National Commissioner
CyberPatriot
Air Force Association



Program Office Bits

Fee Payment & Roster Finalization Deadline:

Nov. 5, 2014

Upcoming Round: Nov. 14-16, 2014

Round 2 (Open and All Service Divisions):

Vista, Windows 8, Ubuntu, and Cisco Quiz

Round 1 (Middle School Division):

Windows 7 and Server 2008

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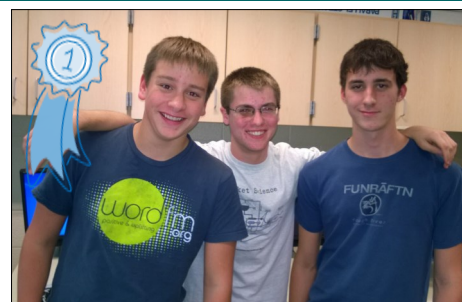
US & UK Round 1 Complete; Cisco Networking Quiz in Round 2

At 9:00 am Eastern Time on Friday, Oct. 24, 2014, the CyberPatriot VII competition season kicked off when Northrop Grumman's Diane Miller started the CyberPatriot Competition System server at the Air Force Association's Building in Rosslyn, Va., to begin Round 1. Among those in attendance at the kickoff event was Montana Williams, the President's advisor on cybersecurity education.

Four minutes after the server started, the team from Pennsylvania's Spring Grove High School became the first CyberPatriot VII team to connect to the competition server. By the end of Friday, more than 500 teams across the United States, Canada, and DoD overseas schools participated in the competition round. The Middle School Division conducted its Practice Round 2 during the same weekend. Overall the weekend ended with more than 1,350 teams participating.

Now in its first season, the United Kingdom's CyberCenturion competition Round 1 was held on the same weekend as CyberPatriot VII. CyberCenturion teams used the same competition software as CyberPatriot teams. The United Kingdom teams will have two elimination rounds of competition which will culminate with the top teams attending the Grand Final in April at historic Bletchley Park. Bletchley Park was home to the cryptographers who broke German codes and provided information that was critical to the Allies' victory in World War II.

The Open and All Service Divisions' Round 2 will be conducted Nov. 14-16 with a Cisco Networking Quiz worth 10 percent of the score. The Middle School Division's Practice Round 1 will be conducted the same weekend without a Cisco Quiz. Coaches having Cisco training questions should email cpoc@uscyberpatriot.org.



The first team to compete in CyberPatriot VII was Spring Grove High School in Spring Grove, Pa. Quick on the keyboard, they began the competition less than two minutes before a group of six other teams. Excitedly, team coach Derrick Henning said, "This is our team's second year, and we're looking forward to doing better than last year!"



The Calm Before the Storm...

November marks the start of participant kit packing! For more information, refer to the last bullet of the Coaches' Corner section.



Is Your Team Roster Finalized?

1. Adding Competitors to Your Roster:

In the appropriate team box, select Register Competitor from the "Options" drop down menu. Enter student information. Upon submitting information, the student will receive an email with a link to complete his/her registration.

2. Competitor Status:

If a student has successfully completed the competitor registration questionnaire that was generated from Step 1, their status should appear as "Registered." If the questionnaire has not been completed, the status will appear as "Not Registered." If that is the case, let the student know he/she must complete the form. If the competitor did not receive the form, or the form was sent to an incorrect email, resend the email or update the email address (as in image shown below).

To have a student removed from a roster, email info@uscyberpatriot.org with the name and team number of the student to be removed.

Rosters must be finalized (all statuses say "Registered") by Nov. 5, 2014.

The screenshot shows the CyberPatriot registration interface. On the left, a sidebar menu has a blue box around the 'Register Competitor' option, with a red circle and arrow pointing to it labeled '1'. Another red circle and arrow labeled '2' points to the 'Status' column in the main table. A text box explains that 'Not Registered' means the competitor hasn't completed the registration form. Below the table, a text box instructs users to update or confirm the email address and click 'Resend email'. On the right, buttons for 'Change Email' and 'Resend Email' are highlighted with red boxes and arrows.

	Email Address	Status
me	cpoc@uscyberpatriot.org	Registered
me 2	info@uscyberpatriot.org	Not Registered

If the student cannot find the registration email, update/confirm his or her email address and then click "Resend email".

Coaches' Corner

- **Online Coaches' and Mentors' Meetings.** The upcoming Coaches' Meetings are a great time to ask any questions about the competition before Round 2 of CP-VII! The first meeting will provide round 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.
 - Nov. 10 — 4:30 pm ET/3:30 pm CT/1:30 pm PT
 - Nov. 12 — 9:00 pm ET/8:00 pm CT/6:00 pm PT
- **Competitor Registration / Fee Payment.** Nov. 5 is the deadline for competitor registration and team fee payment. All competitors must be fully registered by this time. [Click here for detailed instructions](#) on how to add competitors to your roster and ensure their registration is complete.
- **Requests for AT&T Air Card.** All air cards have been issued. Email notification was sent out to Coaches and cards have been delivered. If you have not returned the "Air Card Acknowledgement of Receipt" form that was included in the shipment, please do so immediately.
- **Participant Kits.** Participant kits for CP-VII will be sent out to teams starting after the Nov. 5 deadline to finalize team rosters. Kits will only be sent to members listed on your roster. Requests for additional gear for members not on the roster will not be fulfilled. This season's kits will include a t-shirt, challenge coin, lapel pin, pen, sunglasses, and light up UBS mouse for the Coach and each Competitor and Mentor linked to the team. Packages will be shipped to the address provided by the Coach during the online registration process. (Due to a FedEx policy, we cannot ship to PO boxes. A street address must be given). We appreciate your patience, as it is a long process to pack and ship the kits for each team.

The CyberSentinel

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Spotlight on CyberPatriot Alumni

Impact Story By Austin Belisle, Cisco

Growing up, Richard Parker could have easily given up. His mother was absent and he lived with his grandmother in Watts, a Los Angeles



Richard Parker (second from right) and his team members at the CyberPatriot III National Finals.

neighborhood rife with poverty and lacking in opportunity. CyberPatriot gave Richard the ticket out of Watts and into the world of STEM.

At an early age, Richard was intrigued by computers,

taking them apart and rebuilding them piece by piece. "I've always wanted to create my own computer hardware," he said, "but if I can be better than Steve Jobs, I want to be." At Locke Charter School in Watts, Richard's aspirations of becoming the next computer pioneer proved to be difficult at first. "We didn't have any special classes like woodshop, computer science, or programming," Richard said. Without the proper curriculum, he didn't have the means to further his passion for technology and the Internet. That changed when his school got involved with CyberPatriot in 2010.

Carey Peck, principal of the Beyond the Bell after-school programs in the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD), saw the importance of encouraging high school students to consider science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) careers. While LAUSD educates more than 150,000 students a year, only 2.9 percent of adults 25 and over in Watts have four-year college degrees. With that in mind, LAUSD partnered with CyberPatriot, the National Youth Cyber Education Program.

When he was a senior, Richard's statistics classmates convinced him to take part in CyberPatriot. "My friends knew about it and told me to join," Richard said. "I liked CyberPatriot because computers were considered a sport and it was competitive. It had that same feeling as baseball, where you go in, compete, and try to win together."

When LAUSD began its partnership with CyberPatriot, competitors succeeded in the face of difficult challenges. "We knew we didn't have all the advantages of other areas, which had more learning resources," Richard said. "We had a couple books and a lot of free online tools like YouTube, and we also had a lot of people on our side."

Because most of Richard's teammates had no prior experience with computers, he was forced to take on a leadership role. "I was at a different level than everybody else," he said. "I was programming when no one knew anything besides online games." In order to make up for their lack of experience, the team spent eight hours every Saturday taking computer science classes at Los Angeles Southwest College.

In 2011, Richard's team qualified for the National Finals, earning a trip

to Washington, D.C. "It was the first time in his life that he took a trans-continental flight," Peck said of Richard. "He walked into the lobby of the hotel and looked up at the 18-story atrium. At that moment, I think he realized that they got there on their own effort, that this was a reward for all of their hard work."

The team didn't win, but Richard learned valuable lessons from his experience. "You learn project management skills because there is a time limit on everything," he said.

Following the CyberPatriot competition, Richard attended California State University, Northridge, where he pursued a bachelor's degree in computer engineering and worked as a help desk administrator. He also volunteered as a CyberPatriot mentor at Locke, riding the bus three hours each way to share his passion for technology with students who face the same challenges he did. "I know I can lead another team," said Richard, "and I want other kids to get into it because it's the way of the future."

Richard also started a CyberPatriot team called Layer8 at his college, as part of the program's expansion beyond high schools. "We had no idea how hard it would be," Richard said. "The college level is like learning how to swim by being thrown in the ocean." But Richard enjoys the challenge and wants to continue to improve his skills so that he may one day start his own business.

Peck believes CyberPatriot not only prepared Richard for a career in STEM, but helped him grow as an individual. "Richard learned how to interview, direct his team, and respond to questions. CyberPatriot gave him the boost he needed and the tools to succeed."

UMD and NGC Celebrate Opening of Cybersecurity Lab

By Marynoele Benson, Northrop Grumman

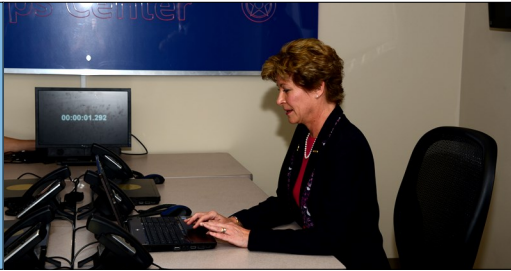
Former CyberPatriot, Greg Bekher, among incoming class of cyber honors students

On Oct. 2, the University of Maryland (UMD) and Northrop Grumman celebrated the opening of the new Advanced Cybersecurity Experience for Students (ACES) Northrop Grumman Laboratory during a ribbon cutting ceremony on the College Park campus. Speaking alongside leaders from industry, academia, and government was Greg Bekher, former CyberPatriot, Northrop Grumman intern, and now incoming freshman at UMD in the Cyber ACES program.

The new laboratory is part of a \$1.1 million grant from Northrop Grumman to support UMD's ACES program, the nation's first cybersecurity honors program. The partnership supports a research-grade Internet backbone and secure laboratory space for Honors College ACES student projects as well as technology upgrades in Prince Frederick Residential Hall where students reside as part of the unique living-learning experience.

As one of two ACES students to speak at the event, (continued on page 4)

Diane Miller of Northrop Grumman started the CyberPatriot VII season by turning on the scoring server. She was just one of many who attended the CP-VII kickoff event on Oct. 26, 2014.



UMD and NGC Celebrate (continued)



CyberPatriot alumnus Greg Bekher addresses the crowd at the opening of the new ACES Northrop Grumman Lab. Also pictured is Sydnee Shannon, Northrop Grumman intern, and CyberPatriot Ambassador at the University of Maryland Center for Women in Computing. She joined Bekher in delivering remarks at the ACES dedication

Bekher addressed the crowd and told of his experience as a CyberPatriot, as an intern working shoulder to shoulder with Northrop Grumman cyber pros, and the hands-on experience he's getting in the ACES program.

"When I toured the University of Maryland and attended their Honors College presentations and their living and

learning programs, the first cohort of ACES students really made the whole program stand out," said Bekher. "I was ecstatic when I was admitted into the Honors College within Maryland and specifically requested to join the ACES Cybersecurity Program. It has been a fantastic experience; ACES is a close and supportive community. I have made many good friends who, like me, are motivated about cybersecurity, computer science, and learning."

Added Bekher, "Little did I know when I first signed up to be a CyberPatriot that so many wonderful opportunities would come my way. It has launched me into a great career field where I feel like I'm really making a difference."

Bekher is a graduate of Chesapeake Science Point Public Charter School in Hanover, Md. He joined CyberPatriot in 2011 when, as the president of his computer science club, he decided to form a team. Bekher then interned for three years at Northrop Grumman in their Cybersecurity Operations Center.

As the first honors undergraduate program in cybersecurity in the US, the ACES program is a unique multidisciplinary program for exceptional undergraduate honors students of all majors. ACES students are guided to become future leaders in the field of cybersecurity through experiential learning, group projects, research and internship opportunities, and a broad focus on the emerging discipline of cybersecurity.

Air Force Association: What Is It?

Many CyberPatriot participants are aware that the program is part of the Air Force Association (AFA), but do you know what AFA is?



AFA's mission is to promote a dominant United States Air Force and a strong national defense, and to honor airmen and Air Force heritage. To accomplish this, we:

- EDUCATE the public on the critical need for unmatched aerospace power and a technically superior workforce (that's you!) to ensure US national security.
- ADVOCATE for aerospace power and STEM education.
- SUPPORT the total Air Force family and aerospace education.

To achieve its mission AFA publishes *Air Force Magazine* and *Wingman Magazine*, conducts national symposia, and disseminates interesting information through our outreach programs. We sponsor professional development seminars and recognize excellence in the education fields through national awards programs. We award educator grants to teachers to promote STEM education at the elementary and secondary school levels.

As someone who has involved yourself or your youth in CyberPatriot, you have already shown that you care about our nation and its future. So we hope you will consider joining us in the good work we are doing by becoming a member of AFA.

For more information, please visit www.afa.org.

If you have questions, contact us at:

membership@afa.org or call 1-800-727-3337

This Month in Cyber History

Nov. 4, 1952 — CBS News borrows a UNIVAC computer to make a scientific prediction of the 1952 presidential election, a race between Dwight D. Eisenhower and Adlai Stevenson. The computer's analysis of early returns showed an easy victory for Eisenhower, but newscasters Walter Cronkite and Charles



Collingwood were wary of the machine's accuracy, as opinion polls predicted a landslide victory for Stevenson. They postponed announcing the UNIVAC prediction until it became clear that Eisenhower would, indeed, win.

For more information, visit:
www.computerhistory.org/t dih/
[November/4/](http://www.computerhistory.org/t dih/November/4/)



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