

Information Technology for Emerging Communities

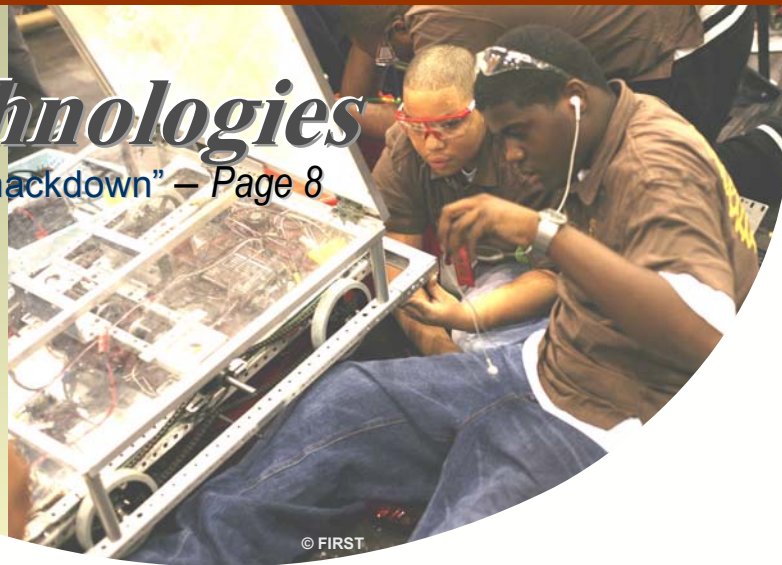
Robotics Technologies

iTune-ups for 2008's "Robot Smackdown" – Page 8

Volume 30
Issue 04.08

PGCC High Tech Center

Regional College Celebrates
Tech Center's Grand Opening



IT'S Thursday, April 10th, 2008 — Prince George's Community College (PGCC) celebrates the grand opening of their new High Technology Center with a ribbon-cutting ceremony on Thursday, Apr. 10, 1:30 p.m. on the first floor of the building. Maryland Lt. Governor Anthony Brown, whose support has played a significant role in the construction of the center, is your keynote speaker. The state provided more than \$13 million toward the completion of the facility. The event is part of the college's 50th Anniversary Celebration. College programs in the 73,080 square-foot High Technology Center include Computer Information Systems, CyberWATCH Center,

Technology, Engineering and Visual Communication. Additionally, three emerging technology laboratories located on the first floor will house programs to meet the education and workforce development needs of the Washington metropolitan area such as e-commerce, Internet applications, wireless computer systems and security technologies.

"This is a signature classroom building

See [Grand Opening](#) on Page 13

For more details on this and other exciting technology events, bookmark or visit: www.bdpatoday.org
From your **BDPA-DC** menu bar, click: [Events](#)

bdpatoday

Washington, D.C. Edition

April 2008

Lockheed Martin Wins \$344 Million Contract to Support DoD's HPC Centers

BDPA's "2006 Epsilon Award Winner" will support four DoD Major Shared Resource Centers

HBCU/MIs to Support MSRCs
Seabrook, MD — Lockheed Martin has been awarded the Next Generation Technical

the contract calls for operation and maintenance of the high performance computing (HPC) centers at four major Department of Defense (DoD) scientific research sites. In support of the DoD HPC Modernization Program (HPCMP), Lockheed Martin will provide systems administration, computer operations and management, systems integration, applications and user support, and data visualization services

for each of the four DoD Major Shared Resource Centers (MSRCs).

MSRC sites include the Navy Oceanographic Office at Stennis Space Center, Miss.; U.S. Army Engineer Research and Development Center in Vicksburg, Miss. [BDPA-Birmingham], Air Force Research Laboratory (AFRL) at Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio [BDPA-Dayton] and Army Research Laboratory (ARL) at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland [BDPA-Baltimore.]

See [HPCMP](#) on Page 12

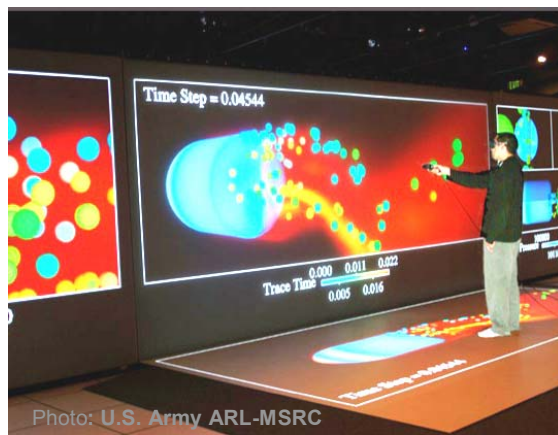


Photo: U.S. Army ARL-MSRC

Services (NGTS) contract by the Department of Defense. Valued at an anticipated \$344 million,

- PGCC Celebrates New High Tech Center's Grand Opening [1]
- Epsilon Winner Captures High-Performance Computing Bid [1]
- BDPA Atlanta Hosts 2008 National Conference [3]
- BDPA Expanded IT Careers Section | BDPA-DC Classifieds [5]
- BETF Executive Director to Address Local BDPA Chapters [12]
- BDPA Government Relations | Technology, the Law, and You [13]

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:



Celebrating 30 Years of Service



Serving the District of Columbia and surrounding communities for over 25 years, Joint Educational Facilities (JEF) is an all-volunteer non-profit community-based organization providing instruction, research, and development guidance to Washington, D.C. area middle and senior high school students. Topics in Advanced Computing Sciences, Contemporary Mathematics, Geographical Information Systems (GIS), High-Performance Computing (HPC), Intelligent Technologies, and Robotics are offered. Parent-Student teams are encouraged to enroll this Fall or next Winter and participate on-line via the Internet, in the lab, or during any JEF event.



Now accepting enrollments from Junior and High School students for Spring and Summer 2008 sessions. For more information, call (202) 584-1898 to register as a student. Instructor-mentor, parent-student teams, JEF scholarships and internships with JEF also are available.

Contact: **Dr. Jesse Bemley**
(202) 584-1898
www.jef.org

2528 Naylor Road, SE., T-3
Washington, DC 20020

JEF | COMBINED FEDERAL CAMPAIGN (CFC) Number: **#40978**
JEF | **UNITED WAY** Campaign: Write-Ins

A 2008 National BDPA Technology Conference

Professional workshop forums are presented this year during the conference days of Wednesday, August 6th through Friday, August 8th. IT professionals seeking to build IT skills, define career directions, and climb the IT corporate ladder attend the National BDPA Conference. The purpose of the adult workshop forum is to support these goals by providing IT specific workshops in leadership, professional and business development, research, project management, communications, certification, and a host of advanced technologies that will provide a challenging

learning experience for attendees.

The Audience

The primary conference audience consists of multiple levels of IT professionals, from entry-level technologists to senior level managers and corporate executives. Entrepreneurs, educators, and college students also will be in attendance. Workshop content and instruction should be geared to a level that is appropriate for your target audience.

Focus Areas include...

- LEADERSHIP
- PROJECT MANAGEMENT
- TECHNICAL SKILLS
- IT ENTREPRENEURSHIP
- PROFESSIONAL

Criteria

Proposals were solicited for 90-minute presentations that are interactive, creative, dynamic, and feature best practices in IT. Each presentation will provide a challenging IT learning experience. Presentation submission deadlines apply.



Atlanta, Georgia
August 6-9, 2008




www.bdpa.org

BDPA ATLANTA – 2008 Host Chapter



National BDPA is reaching out to all experts and dynamic presenters to share their knowledge and expertise in technology through interactive workshops to be held at our 30th Annual BDPA Technology Conference in Atlanta, GA on August 6-9, 2008. Presentations can be made to either students (high school through college) or adults (professionals and technicians) during the conference. Presenters may submit multiple abstracts within a forum or one may submit for both forums. Important dates to remember:

- Full Presentations Due: **April 11, 2008**



TeraGrid '08
June 9-13, 2008

Riviera Hotel
Las Vegas, Nevada



HP: Pioneering Grid Computing's Move Into The Enterprise Market



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Building a Legacy of Excellence

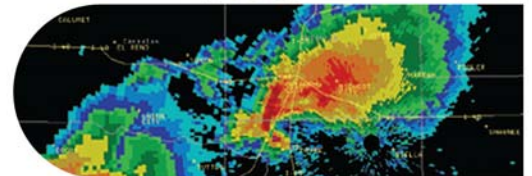
For nearly 15 years, with the guidance and vision of our President and CEO, Rodney P. Hunt, RS Information Systems, Inc. has effectively leveraged business process re-engineering, information technology, engineering management, and scientific applications to become a leading African-American-owned federal service provider.

Through an early understanding of the value of diversity in the workplace, comprehensive business planning, performance-based support, strategic partnerships, and small business mentoring, we have solidified and expanded RSIS from a two-person company to a leader in our industry, which enables and empowers its customers to advance their missions.

One of RSIS' most important resources has always been our diversified talent base. Our workforce is comprised of 65% minorities, women, veterans, or disabled individuals, currently supporting 100 prime contracts with a wide range of defense, civilian, intelligence and law enforcement agencies.

A hallmark of Mr. Hunt's visionary leadership is his continual commitment to the company's mission, business niche, and our corporate values and ethics, which include supporting, honoring, and when possible, improving our employees, customers, partners, and communities.

As we continue to build a broad-based legacy of excellence in the world of technology services, we are proud to honor and celebrate the success of like-minded organizations such as the Black Data Processing Associates. Keep up the good work.



RS Information Systems, Inc.
1651 Old Meadow Road
McLean, VA 22102 www.rsis.com



BDPA's career center has an updated resume databank to post resumes and career vitae for exposure to the best companies in the world for Information Communication Technology (ICT) positions at all levels. We have an excellent search facility in the form of a Job Bank that allows one to search for the perfect position for matching a specific skill set.

Your career center has support services from career coaches that will assist users in getting careers back on track or reaching the next levels of advancement. These support services also extend to salary surveys thus allowing users to see how competitive a salary is in relation to other parts of the country and to other ICT positions. These services allow users to view the emerging positions within related industries and connect with resources for a full job outlook.

This career center also supports ICT college students with a Student Internship Program to include resources to assist first-time workforce entrants in securing desired college internships over the summer or any time during the course of a school year. BDPA should be one of the first stops in fulfilling all of your career goals and meeting ICT professionals in every industry sector.

Your next opportunity to network and interface with business leaders and hiring managers supporting BDPA is in Washington, D.C., **April 24, 2008** at the ASAE Conference Center before and after monthly Program Meetings. More information is available by visiting "Events" online: www.bdpa-dc.org.

Send current IT job announcements and web banner links to: info@bdpatoday.org

Information Management Specialists

Provide highly technical expertise in the development and use of Cognos, DB2, Oracle, PeopleSoft, SAP, or Teradata

Washington, D.C. Position Prerequisites:

- Must be a U.S. Citizen with a minimum of 5 years IT experience
 - Bachelor's Degree or equivalent years of working experience
 - Candidates with DHS ICE or DoD Secret Clearances preferred (otherwise, candidate must successfully obtain a DHS or DoD Clearance)
 - Strong communications skills
 - Experience in working directly with customers
 - Working knowledge of Java/J2EE and CMM/CMMI practices are a plus
 - Ability to develop software development life cycle documentation (e.g., Data Management Plans; System Design Documents, etc.)
- Send resumes with a Cover Letter to: resumes@pinnacle-careers.com



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Harris is headquartered in the U.S. and has sales and service facilities in more than 150 countries. Customers around the globe want to be confident that their unique communications needs are understood and supported by people who are within easy reach. As part of Harris' commitment to being a leader in the worldwide communications market, we have continued to strengthen our international position by establishing a strong local presence in each of the markets we serve. Career opportunities are available at the following Satellite Locations: **Alexandria VA, Annapolis Junction MD, Colorado Springs CO, Long Beach CA, and Omaha NE.** Contact a BDPA engagement partner today.

Ms. Heather Gagnier | BDPA Engagement Partner
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BDPA-DC Engagement Partner: **Herman Scott**



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Software Developers - C++, Java
Alabama | Maryland | Virginia | Washington DC

Visit www.infotek-intl.com for specific information. Email a cover letter with resume in MS Word to: resume@infotek-intl.com with the **Job Title**.

Career Upgrade Connections

In 2008, BDPA's Washington, D.C. Chapter invites new members to celebrate with us our 30 years of service, professional development, and community outreach.

Committees to Chair or Join:

- **Audit/Finance/Sales/Grants**
Invest in our *trillion-dollar* industry
- **IT Programs/Chapter Events**
Host *Interest Groups* and meetings
- **Membership/Services**
Source *non-IT* members for growth
- **Government Relations/Advocacy**
Track laws in our *high-tech* society
- **Communications + PR**
Join local BDPA *multimedia* teams
- **Education/Training/Standards**
Develop *courseware*, be a *Mentor*

What To Look For in 2008:

- Black Engineer of The Year Awards
- BDPA-Day-On-The-Hill
- BDPA-Day @ Annapolis
- ITSMF Symposium and Gala
- FOSE 2008
- National Harbor Conventions
- Regional BDPA Golf Classic
- Regional HSCC Competition (Youth)
- Regional IT Showcase (Students)
- TeraGrid '08
- National BDPA Conference
- National IT Showcase (Students)
- National HSCC Competition (Youth)
- Legislative Conference (CBCF/ALC)
- Prince George's Football Classic
- Supercomputing 2008 (SC08)
- BDPA-DC 30th Anniversary Gala

www.bdpa-dc.org

Corporate sponsorships and member discounts are available by contacting the Washington, D.C. BDPA Chapter:
washingtondc@bdpa.org
202.659.5367 — or — 703.627.8257

SUPERCOMPUTING 2008 CONFERENCE PREVIEW

SC08 Broader Engagement (BE) Program

SC08 is committed to broadening participation in the conference and to the engagement of individuals from around the globe, in groups and disciplines that traditionally have been underrepresented in high performance computing or at the SC Conference series. The breadth and depth of SC08 will provide unparalleled opportunities for learning about innovations in high performance computing, networking, storage and analysis. The Broader Engagement (BE) Program strives to identify and involve those individuals from underrepresented communities who have an interest in high performance computing.

Mentorship Programs

The mentorship program that started last year at SC07 will continue at SC08. In close collaboration with the Education Program, student volunteers and SC exhibitors, BE is endeavoring to grow its mentorship program. The program plans to continue the formation of mentor/protégé pairs, and develop informal opportunities through coffee or lunch meetings with scientists and industry leaders to encourage networking bridges that benefit the participants involved in the program and hopefully beyond. JEF and BDPA-DC have additional information for local teams. Visit: www.bdpa-dc.org



November 15-21, 2008
Austin Convention Center
Austin, Texas

bdpa@sc08

Support Teams are forming for this year's high school and college student participation during featured technology expos, IT conferences, IT Showcase and BDPA HSCC events. Parents and sponsors are invited to participate and assist area students with research concepts and development projects. Contact the JEF Center at: **202.584.1898**

An **A+** For Helping Hands with Technical Careers\$

Educational institutions, training companies, not-for-profits such as BDPA and government-funded training organizations can improve services to constituencies by joining CompTIA.

IT Career Upgrades

CompTIA is the leading association representing the international technology community. Its goal is to provide a unified voice, global advocacy and leadership, and to advance industry growth through standards, professional competence, education and business solutions.

BDPA-DC will work with CompTIA in 2008 to make certification testing more accessible with sponsored and discounted student

vouchers. This upgraded member service allows BDPA members to keep their own skill sets current with industry requirements. Advanced training and free vouchers for additional CompTIA certifications will be made available for BDPA student and full members.

CompTIA Exam Vouchers for BDPA Instructors

Qualified BDPA members of E2C member schools who are training students in any of CompTIA's current certifications are eligible to receive a voucher for one of the following CompTIA certifications: **A+**, **Network+**, **i-Net+**, **Server+**, **Linux+**, **HTI+**, **RFID+**, **Security+** and **Project+**.



Obtaining a CompTIA certification adds to personal credentials and paves the way to more lucrative and challenging leadership positions. Top technology companies like Cisco, HP, IBM, Intel, Microsoft and Novell leverage

CompTIA certifications as electives or equivalents for their own certification tracks. BDPA members who achieve higher industry certifications with DoD security clearances attract growth industries to emerging communities, transfer knowledge to local schools while promoting economic development.

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SECURING TOMORROW TODAY



www.usfirst.org

2008 FIRST Robotics Competition (FRC)
Atlanta Georgia Dome April 17-19, 2008



Educational institutions, training companies, and not-for-profits such as BDPA are gearing up for new advances in emerging technologies. In 2008, parents, teachers, students, and coaches will venture to Atlanta, Georgia for the FIRST Robotics Competition later this month, to Las Vegas, Nevada in June for the TeraGrid Conference, back to Atlanta for National BDPA's High School Computer Competition and IT Showcase in August, and then on to Austin, Texas in November for Supercomputing 2008 (SC08). Career, scholarship and internship opportunities always are available to participants during these exciting events. Moreover, participants have fun designing and deploying solutions as a team, while concurrently nurturing new relationships. These relationships ultimately enhance careers and local economies.

Occupational Outlook For Careers in Robotics

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, careers in robotics and related technologies should see healthy growth in their fields. Growth should reach double-digit figures through 2014, for our multi-billion dollar industry.

The biggest threat to U.S. robotics engineering jobs is the presence of talented competition abroad--particularly competition willing to work for much less than the average American.

However, one area of robotics engineering that should see

a decent amount of growth, according to the Bureau, is the consulting arena. More people are required to design and maintain robots, as well as study them and develop advanced applications for them.

Getting Communities Involved in a New "Sport"

Pointing America's youth in the right direction as early as possible is key. Building a robot with a kit for the school's next science fair (as shown in the photo to the left) or upgrading a team's kit for a national FIRST Robotics "Smackdown" Competition (as shown on our Cover Page) puts America's youth on the fast track while learning science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) as integrated project teams or "IPTs."



SRV-1 Robot
by ThinkGeek
supports MAC OS,
Windows and LINUX

How Can BDPA Members Help?

All robots require software and related applications for their "brains" to properly send and receive appropriate signals or "pulses" to microcontrollers and receivers.

Microcontroller circuits manage and respond to data retrieved from sensors, cameras, and microphones. Software also is used to send signals to servos and motors controlling every moving device on board. **BDPA members write and know "the code."** Join today.



2008 FIRST ROBOTICS COMPETITION AT-A-GLANCE

The Basics

17th season

Game: *FIRST* Overdrive

1,501 teams

1,184 returning teams (91% retention)

317 rookie teams

37,525 students (25 students/team)

21,014 mentors (14 mentors/team)

4,100 other volunteers

50 states

4 provinces

8 countries

Brazil (14 teams)

Canada (66 teams in 4 provinces)

Chile (1 team)

Israel (36 teams)

Mexico (2 teams)

Netherlands (1 team)

U.K. (5 teams)

U.S. (1,376 teams in 50 states)

Events

1 Kickoff

- Manchester, NH

- 49 Local Kickoffs tuning in

41 Regionals

- New Regionals

Honolulu, HI

Minneapolis, MN

Oklahoma City, OK

Seattle, WA

1 Championship

- April 17-19, 2008

- Georgia Dome, Atlanta

- 340 teams

Scholarships

Close to \$10 million

Over 110 Scholarship Providers (mostly colleges and universities)

Over 560 merit-based offerings

Robot Facts

Max. weight: 120 lbs. (not including battery)

Max. dimensions: 28" W x 38" L x 72" H

No additional energy sources, motors or compressors are allowed

Kit Facts

59 suppliers

422 parts per kit

73% of parts are donated

Field Fact

Playing area: 26' 8" W X 54' L

Fun Facts

2,500+ sponsors

126 tons of material - more than half of what the Statue of Liberty weighs!

5.5+ miles of 6AWG wire

Over 14 miles of pneumatic tubing

The length of the pneumatic tubing and 6AWG wire combined is long enough to circle this year's FRC field 695 times

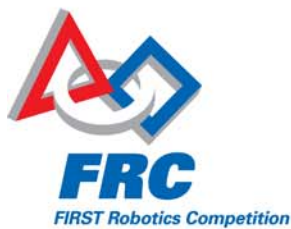
18 tons of batteries

21,000 motors

Close to 50,000 medallions, 2200 trophies, and 170 banners will be distributed at Regional events

FIRST
200 Bedford Street
Manchester, NH 03101
800.871.8326
www.usfirst.org

Updated 03/20/2008



THE *FIRST* ROBOTICS COMPETITION

Since 1989, the *FIRST* Robotics Competition has grown from 28 teams to 1,500 today.

Over 85% of the high schools and their company mentors have stayed involved year after year.

What is it?

A unique varsity sport of the mind designed to help high-school-aged young people discover how interesting and rewarding the life of engineers and scientists can be.

What is unique?

- » It is a sport where the participants play with the pros and learn from them
- » Designing and building a robot is a fascinating real-world professional experience
- » Competing on stage brings participants as much excitement and adrenaline rush as conventional varsity tournaments
- » The game rules are a surprise every year

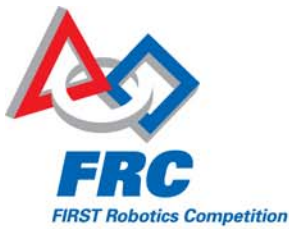


How it works

The *FIRST* Robotics Competition stages short games played by autonomous and remote-controlled robots. The robots are designed and built in 6 weeks (from a common set of parts) by a team of 15 to 25 high-school-aged young people and a handful of engineers-mentors. The students remotely control the robots in competition rounds on the field.

Each school year, teams are formed in the fall. The *FIRST* Robotics Competition Kickoff in early January starts the six-week "build" season. Competitions take place in March and April. The *FIRST* Robotics Competition Regional events are typically held in university arenas. They involve 40 to 70 teams cheered by thousands of fans over two and a half days. A championship event caps the season. Referees oversee the competition. Judges evaluate teams and present awards for design, technology, sportsmanship and commitment to *FIRST*. The Chairman's Award is *FIRST*'s highest honor and recognizes a team that exemplifies the values of *FIRST*.

FIRST
200 Bedford Street
Manchester, NH 03101
800.871.8326
www.usfirst.org



THE *FIRST* ROBOTICS COMPETITION

What is needed to start a team:

- » A few engineers or other professional volunteers (3 to 6) encouraged by their company's management
- » 15 to 25 high-school-aged young people led by a teacher, ideally supported by the school principal and a group of parent volunteers
- » Funding (of \$15,000 to \$30,000) to participate in 2 to 3 Regional competitions provided by a single company, a group of companies and/or through school fund-raising efforts

What is needed to host a *FIRST* Robotics Regional Competition:

Funding (\$150,000 to \$200,000) raised from corporations, foundations, individuals and administrations

Volunteers to organize, raise funds, recruit new teams and support the competition itself (judges, referees, announcers, security, etc.)

What has been accomplished to date:

- » Since 1989, the *FIRST* Robotics Competition has grown from 28 teams involved to 1,500 today
- » 87% of the high schools and their company mentors have stayed involved year after year
- » The positive impact on student interest in engineering is proven
- » Participants have learned the great value of teamwork, self-starting, character, time management, speed, etc.
- » In most schools, participation in the *FIRST* Robotics Competition has had a broad positive impact beyond the team itself. The *FIRST* Robotics Competition is one of the varsity sports in yearbooks
- » Volunteers enjoy participating year after year
- » *FIRST* has received major media coverage of events and the impact of the *FIRST* Robotics Competition

Hope for the future

We know the *FIRST* Robotics Competition will have succeeded when:

- » More than half of high schools are funding their *FIRST* teams like all other varsity activities
- » More than 12,000 corporations are volunteering engineers-mentors for these teams year after year
- » *FIRST* Robotics Competition events are as common as any other high-school sports event
- » The *FIRST* Robotics Competition season is televised
- » The *FIRST* volunteer organization is recognized and admired worldwide

FIRST
200 Bedford Street
Manchester, NH 03101
800.871.8326
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BDPA Education & Technology Foundation

The BDPA Education and Technology Foundation (BETF) is an organization established to achieve, through investment in education and technology, informed underserved communities prepared to lead and leverage the knowledge revolution for the benefit of the community-at-large. Their main focus areas are: **Student Information Technology Education and Scholarship (SITES)** and the **BDPA IT Institute** at Auburn.



R. Wayne Hicks
Executive Director, BETF

R. Wayne Hicks is the executive director for the BDPA Education & Technology Foundation (BETF), the non-profit fundraising arm for BDPA, our global IT association.

He owns Hicks Enterprises, a consulting firm based in Cincinnati that focuses on Internet online marketing, leadership consultation and product sales.

He is president/CEO of the Cincinnati Business Incubator (CBI). Under his leadership, CBI has more than tripled its corporate clients since May 2003 while promoting economic development and job creation throughout the community. CBI was named "2006 Non-Profit of the Year" by the Over-the-Rhine Chamber.

Prior to starting his own business Wayne served as the Director of the Cincinnati Submission Processing Center (CSPC) in Covington, Kentucky with over 3,600 employees. The final eight years of his 23-year career with the federal government were served at the Senior Executive Service (SES) level.

Wayne received a BA in political science from the University of California, Riverside. He is a past president of National BDPA. He served from 1999-2001 as the BDPA Cincinnati chapter president.

His chapter was recognized as back-to-back BDPA Chapter of the Year for their efforts in 2001 and 2002 under Wayne's leadership. Wayne was the National BDPA President-Elect in 2002-2003 and National BDPA President in 2004-2005.

Wayne is active on a number of community-based initiatives including CincyTech USA and Cincinnati Creates Companies. The Business Courier recognized him as one of the "Forty-Under-40" leaders in Cincinnati and he was a finalist for the Applause Magazine ImageMaker Award for his work in the technology arena.

Wayne has been a frequent workshop presenter at regional & national training seminars discussing topics such as, "Vanishing Black Male," "Dealing with Office Politics," "Bridging the Digital Divide," and "Strategies for Success." Wayne is a single parent with three children.

Wayne will be the Washington, D.C. BDPA Chapter's featured speaker during April's Program Meeting at the ASAE Conference Center in Washington, D.C. on Thursday, April 24th, 2008. **Registration is free and is required on or before Tuesday, April 22, 2008 by visiting: www.bdpa-dc.org. See "Events"**



HPCMP | Lockheed from Cover Page

Responsible to the Deputy Under Secretary for Defense for Science and Technology, the HPCMP serves the DoD Research and Development and Simulation and Test communities by providing supercomputer services, high-speed network communications and computational science expertise.

Following a two-month transition period, Lockheed Martin will begin operations on June 1. The contract includes a one year \$85 million base year and four one-year options. The General Services Administration (GSA) Atlanta office made the award.

Steve Lubniewski, President of Lockheed Martin Enterprise Solutions & Services (ES&S) said, "We are excited to have been afforded this opportunity to support the DoD scientific community in such a significant way. We commit to bring to the HPCMP the innovation, solid enterprise management expertise, and performance that a program of this importance demands."

Teammates High Performance Computing Technologies Inc., Reston, Va.; Quantum Recruiting, Dallas, Texas; and Victory Solutions, Huntsville, Ala, will support Lockheed Martin.

HBCU/MI Participation @ ARL

The objective of the U.S. Army Research Laboratory's (ARL) Historically Black Colleges and Universities/Minority Institutions (HBCU/MI) program is to address the projected shortfall of scientists and engineers among the diverse populations of the 21st century, leverage HBCU/MI technical capabilities to fulfill ARL requirements, and expand the involvement of HBCU/MIs in ongoing research at ARL. ARL understands that science and technology have been and will remain the engines of economic growth and national security in the U.S. BDPA Student Members are always encouraged to seek internships with Lockheed Martin teams, ARL's MSRC, and other MSRCs.



Grand Opening from Cover Page

that will support various advanced technology instructional processes," says Joseph Rossmeier, vice president for technology services. "An emerging Apple certified training center will serve the Washington and Baltimore region," he added.

Guided tours are planned for guests to observe all of the building's amenities such as

wireless technology, state-of-the-art instructional systems, high definition videoconferencing, three-dimensional holographic simulation

... An emergng Apple certified training center will serve the Washington and Baltimore Region ...

technology, open computer laboratories with individual computer study areas and electronic key card access to offices, classrooms and laboratories. A cyber café is located on the third floor with an outdoor patio and wireless hotspots for students to access the Internet with personal laptop computers.

While the High Technology Center opened for classes in January 2008, the official celebration takes place in April. "Since the facility opened earlier this semester there has been a lot of excitement with the technological features now available," says Christy Wright, co-chair of the 50th Anniversary Celebration Grand Opening subcommittee.

The High Technology Center Grand Opening is one of a series of educational, cultural, arts and dance events that Prince George's Community College is hosting throughout the year in

celebration of its 50th Anniversary culminating with an anniversary gala in fall 2008.



Maryland Computer Sales Tax to be Repealed?

Rockville, MD—The Tech Council of Maryland, representing more than 500 companies and thousands of IT workers statewide, is cheering the latest news [bdpatoday press time] that the Maryland House of Delegates has passed legislation to repeal the six percent sales tax on computer services. The measure now goes to Governor Martin O'Malley, who is expected to sign the tech tax repeal into law.

"We are elated at the news that the House has passed the repeal. We want to commend the Governor O'Malley, Senate President Miller and Speaker Busch for tackling this difficult challenge head on," said Julie Coons, chief executive officer of the Tech Council of Maryland. "With technology jobs so vital to the state's economy, this move sends the right message that Maryland is good for business, particularly small and medium-sized growing businesses."

"We told our members we would not stop fighting until the computer services sales tax was repealed. And we did it," said Ms. Coons. "We would like to thank all of our volunteer members who have come to Annapolis, writing letters and making personal appeals to their legislators. It is gratifying to see that when people unite and speak up, they will be heard."

The Tech Council of Maryland also thanks all members of the Maryland General Assembly who voted to repeal the tech tax. It was truly a vote for Maryland's technology economy.

05.22.08 – Growing Your Own *IT* Committee



In May 2008, new BDPA-DC members and community leaders will be invited to launch industry-specific Special Interest Groups (SIGs) and neighborhood Chapter Interest Groups (CIGs) to expand committee services and chapter programs to emerging communities within the National Capital Region (NCR).

New SIGs should include growth areas such as Standards, High Performance Computing, Modeling & Simulation, Intelligent Transportation Systems, Robotics (Unmanned Vehicle) software, Serious Games (beyond Xbox, Wii, and PSP), or Web 2.0 technologies.

New BDPA CIGs are forming within this region to provide services to Anne Arundel, Charles, Howard, Montgomery, and Prince George's Counties in Maryland. To schedule a BDPA CIG event near you, visit our website at www.bdpa-dc.org for the latest details, meeting locations, and contact information.



Computer Models + Bracketology = Field of 65

The NCAA's Rating Percentage Index (RPI) was created in 1981 to provide supplemental data for NCAA Division I Men's Basketball Committees to evaluate the best teams for at-large selections and seedings within regional 'pods' in quests of championship brackets. Even today, **complex algorithms** and **computer models** cannot accurately evaluate qualitative factors such as games missed by coaches or key players, and travel difficulties. Someday, **expert systems** may be able to accomplish this goal—but how? Ballers! Join us in Atlanta and present your ideas to BDPA during this year's **IT Showcase**.

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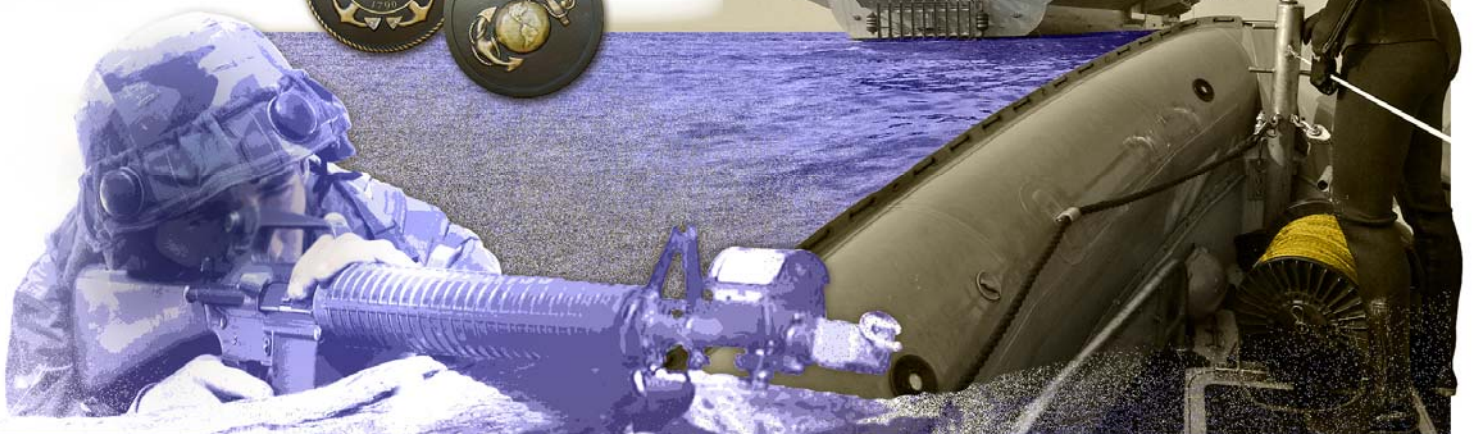
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For more information call
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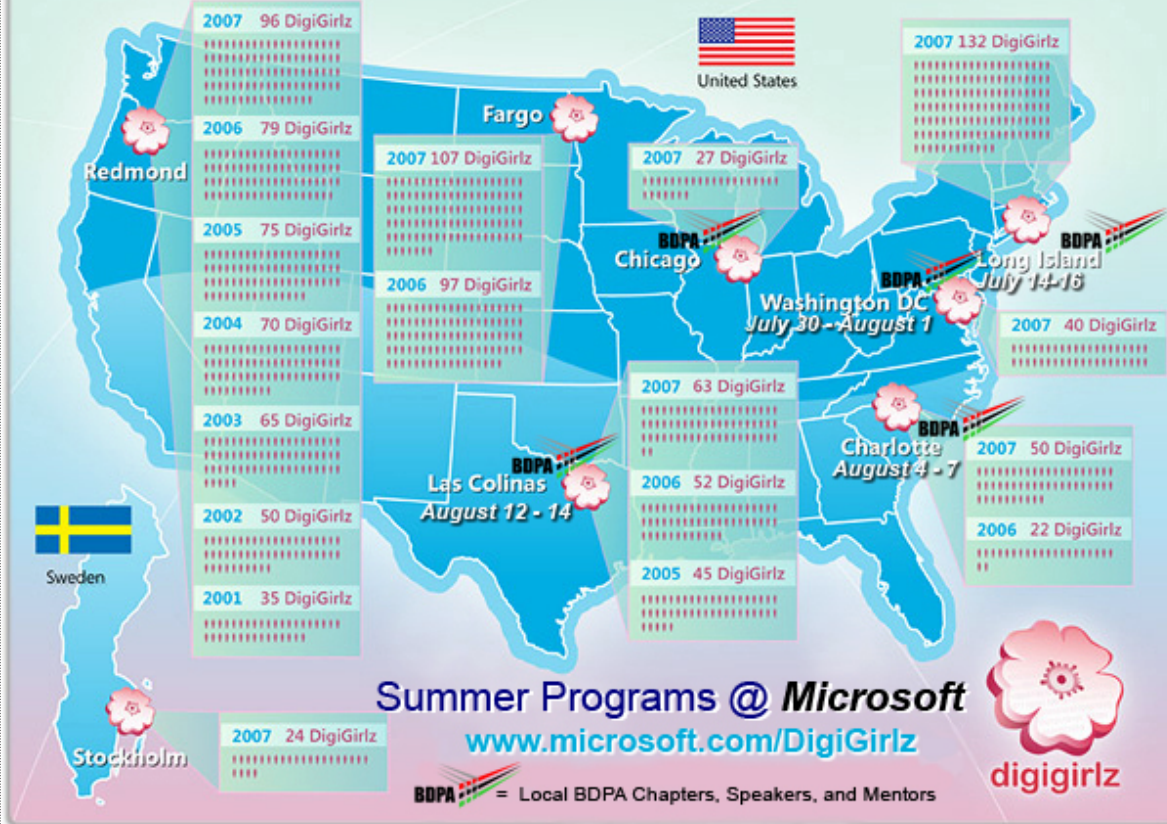
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Your next issue features articles from industry trade shows, Capitol Hill reviews and NBDPA announcements. Scholarships, grants, small business trends, special intern announcements and Summer 2008 event information will be updated and made available to BDPA Members. Join a chapter, SIG, or committee near you today!

- Annual Member Dues: \$75
- Student Member Dues: \$15

DigiGirلز High Tech Camp is a technology camp for girls. Its goal is to educate and inspire girls by introducing them to the considerable opportunities and career choices available in the high-tech industry.

During the camp, the girls are exposed to executive speakers, technology tours and demonstrations, networking, and hands-on learning workshops. Started in 2000, the camp continues to grow and evolve.



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