



► An historic succession occurred at Xerox last quarter when a former summer engineering intern was selected to lead the company.

See **XEROX** Page 4



► The United States Navy and BETF awarded scholarships to qualified students at NBDPA's Annual Gala. Recipients are National HSCC Finalists.

See **BETF** Page 4



Volume 34
Issue 09.09

DOJ Approves Oracle-Sun Deal

European Commission
Clearance Still Pending



REDWOOD SHORES, CA—

Oracle Corporation, the world's largest business software company, announced August 20th the U.S. Department of Justice approved Oracle's proposed acquisition of Sun Microsystems and terminated the waiting period under the Hart-Scott-Rodino Act.

Sun's stockholders approved the transaction on July 16, 2009. Closing of the transaction is subject to certain conditions, including clearance by the European Commission.

bt



GREENBDPA
Featuring GREEN IT Articles

bdpatoday

Chapter Edition

Fall 2009

IT Showcase '09 Yields Diverse Tech Portfolio

Southern Minnesota Wins 3rd Consecutive National HSCC Title



BDPA photograph by Thomas Polk
bdpatoday

RALEIGH, NC – NBDPA | August 8, 2009

NBDPA HSCC finalist, Ms. Raven Stevenson (center) receives her full Navy scholarship to the school of her choice during this year's Awards Gala. Also shown with Ms. Stevenson above (L-R) is Ms. Denise Holland, President NBDPA; the Honorable B. J. Penn, Assistant Secretary of the Navy; Lieutenant Dennis Holmes, US Navy, NROTC Program Manager; and Vice Admiral Harry Harris, Jr., US Navy, Deputy Chief of Naval Operations for Communications Networks (OPNAV N6.).

RALEIGH, NC—For the third year in a row, BDPA's Philadelphia Chapter wins NBDPA's coveted **Chapter of the Year** award. BDPA's High School Computer Competition (HSCC) Team from Southern Minnesota wins its third consecutive National BDPA HSCC title. HSCC computers were provided by National HSCC sponsor **HP** (formerly Hewlett-Packard) for HSCC each team to design, develop, and test their applications.

The BDPA Education and Technology Foundation (BETF) will award scholarships to members of NBDPA's top five (5) HSCC Teams (listed on **Page 7**.) This year's unprecedented

See **BETF** on Page 4



- **SCRUM** | Agile software development
- **Historic Succession @ XEROX** | Former Intern is new CEO
- **National BDPA 2009 Award Recipients** | August 8, 2009 Raleigh, NC
- **39th ALC** | Congressional Black Caucus Foundation (**CBCF**)
- **COMPTIA Certifications** | Career Tracks for Network+, RFID+, & more

3, 13
4
7
10
12



Celebrating 34 Years of Service

together...

we can travel past
the digital divide
and beyond.
all aboard?



Technology Awareness Program

A COMMUNITY TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT & AWARENESS PROGRAM

A community technology development & awareness program TAP provides corporate sponsors with a turnkey program that enables them to advance the value of technology to African-American, Hispanic, and Native American communities *through three programs*: La Familia Technology Awareness Week; Native American Family Technology Journey; and Black Family Technology Awareness Week. The programs are comprised of content designed for audiences from kindergarten through 12th grade and includes their parents and extended families. TAP enables companies to augment their public image among minorities by extending their outreach efforts into those communities.



For more information call
410-244-7101 or visit our websites!

Black Family Network
www.blackfamilynet.net

La Familia Network
www.lafamilianet.net

Native American Family Network
www.firstpeoplesnet.net



let's bring technology to all people. all aboard?



CAREER
COMMUNICATIONS GROUP, INC.

SCRUM - Not your average Monday night football scrimmage

The Scrum methodology of agile software development marks a dramatic departure from waterfall management. In fact, Scrum and other agile processes were inspired by its shortcomings. The Scrum methodology emphasizes communication and collaboration, functioning software, and the flexibility to adapt to emerging business realities – all attributes that suffer in the rigidly ordered waterfall paradigm. *See SCRUM on page 13*



DoD photo by Donna Hyatt

Project Managers—*Move the Ball!*

scrum [skruh-m] –*noun* | defined by dictionary.com as a Rugby play in which, typically, members of each team line up opposite one another (3x2x3) making an eight-person formation on each side; the ball is then rolled between the opposing front lines, the players of which stand with arms around a teammate's waist, meeting the opponent shoulder to shoulder, and attempt to kick the ball *backward* to a teammate. Shown above, U.S. Marines (Red) vs. U.S. Coast Guard (Blue) in a 2008 Armed Forces Rugby Championship match. The U.S. Air Force team won last year's Armed Forces Rugby Championship by defeating each branch of the armed services. *See SCRUM on page 13.*

09.23.09 – Growing Strong *IT* Relationships



Our Next Networking Event

On Wednesday, September 23rd, the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation (CBCF) will host their 39th Annual Legislative Conference (ALC) at the Washington Convention Center in Washington, D.C. NBDPA and Regional BDPA Chapters encourage maximum participation and attendance during each of this year's national ALC events. See **Page 10** for additional details.

Nationwide, BDPA members and stakeholders continue to form special interest groups (SIGs) within their respective local BDPA Chapters to provide support along with professional development services and other strategic partnerships.

<http://bdpa.groupsites.com>

To schedule a BDPA event near you, visit our national website at www.bdpa.org for meeting and event locations or call our national office in Largo, MD at 800.727.BDPA (2372). **bt**



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NBDPA, formerly known as Black Data Processing Associates, was founded in 1975 to promote professional growth and technical development for those in or entering information, communications, or technology (ICT) oriented fields of interest and related industries. BDPA Chapters publish quarterly or monthly newsletters. For newsletter or web portal advertising rates, publication schedules, online calendars, and e-newsletters, contact regional or local BDPA offices by visiting www.bdpa.org or by calling 1.800.727.2372 (BDPA). **bdpatoday** (ISSN 1946-1429) is published by participating Local Chapters of NBDPA with their respective chapter Communications Committees, mailed to BDPA members, BDPA corporate sponsors and electronically delivered to BDPA Chapters and Chapter Interest Groups (CIGs) as a benefit of membership. First Class and Periodicals postage paid at Washington, D.C. and additional regional mailing offices. Unless otherwise noted by own copyright, art and graphics © NBDPA, © BDPA-DC, © Corbis, © Getty Images, & ©JupiterImages™. Cover photos and logos: U.S. Navy and NBDPA. **bdpatoday** is available for immediate online publishing of ICT industry, chapter news, and community IT events. Send ads, articles, events, or images to: info@bdpatoday.org. Readers also may use Groupsites calendars, enhanced by Groupsites.com to review local news, events, or deadlines and submit ICT news from respective media markets.

bdpatoday Fall 2009

— Page 3 —

bdpatoday.org



National High School Computer Competition
July 2010—Philadelphia, PA
800.727.BDPA (2372) | www.bdpa.org

bt Side Bar

Fact or Fiction?

Q: Can thieves “car-jack” keyless-entry codes?

A: Yes. Geeks already know this. A better question; however, may be: “Do car thieves steal or program cars with ill-gotten codes?”

Our friends over at *Car and Drive Magazine* received an e-mail warning everyone about thieves hacking into keyless-entry systems to unlock cars. According to the scenario in their e-mail, thieves lurk near the victim's car with equipment that intercepts and steals the transmitted code from the key fob as the driver presses the “lock” button. Then, these so-called master criminals use special “007-esque” equipment to unlock cars using stolen codes. According to auto-industry lock specialists, each keyless-entry transmitter has a transmitter identification code (TIC) that is programmed and, therefore, linked to each vehicle. But even if thieves manage to mimic the TIC, the unlocking/locking process is even more complicated.

Check IT: To issue an unlocking/locking action, the fob's transmitter sends a request to the receiver/control module in the car. With this request, the transmitter also sends a new code sequence and TIC to the receiver. To issue an unlock/lock command, the code sequence and TIC sent by the transmitter must be one that has not been used before and the next—or one of the next few—in a planned sequence. This is what geeks refer to as “rolling code.” But wait, there's more! Lots more—try 4.8 million billion combinations more. So even if thieves did manage to steal the TIC and the code sequence from the transmitter, the chance of stumbling upon that one single crucial next code is one in 4.8 quadrillion—4,800,000,000,000,000. **bt**

The term “fob” goes back to the days of yore when NBDPA Founder, Earl A. Pace, Jr., wore pocket watches. A fob is the short chain or ribbon attached to a pocket watch and worn hanging in front of a vest or waist. Today, it is a remote control used to lock and unlock a car, among other functions. Visit [bdpatoday](http://bdpatoday.com) | [online](http://online.bdp.com) for a daily list of acronyms.

U.S. Navy, Oracle, and BETF Fund New Scholarships

Technical Minority Scholarships Also Available at Xerox | Apply *before 9/30*

BETF—from Cover Page

three-peat success stories were accentuated by a National HSCC finalist receiving a full Navy scholarship to a participating NROTC university of her choice, and very professional presentations of advanced concepts delivered to industry judges from collegiate and high school IT Showcase (ITSC) finalists (*Page 9*.) Topics were very diverse with strong high performance computing and advanced computational themes.

Oracle Donates \$50K to NBDPA at Gala

The Oracle Education Foundation makes a small number of cash grants to select primary and secondary schools that serve as test beds for *ThinkQuest* and *Think.com*. These grants support professional development, project-learning and technology integration activities. The Foundation also makes grants to non-profit organizations such as NBDPA, BETF, and BDPA Chapters for special projects that support its mission.

Technical Scholarships @ XEROX

Visit: www.xerox.com and select “Careers”

Pursuing a career in Technology has its built-in challenges. What needn't be a challenge is finding the financial wherewithal that will help you in achieving your goals. To that end, Xerox established the Technical Minority Scholarship Program.

In demonstration of their commitment to the academic success of minority students and to the cultivation and recruitment of qualified minority employees in technical fields, scholarships are available in the amount \$1,000 - \$10,000 (depending on tuition balance, academic excellence and classification.) Applications are to be completed in their entirety and received by Xerox before September 30th of each year. Need additional research? Stop by Xerox' Booth #1100 during the *PRINT '09 Expo*, September 11-16, McCormick Place, Chicago, IL.

Careers, Events & Industry Opportunities

Visit: <http://bdpatoday.groupsite.com>

Visit **BDPA** and **bdpatoday** groupsites for additional events, career, and industry updates. Join or renew BDPA memberships for 2010 with NBDPA and local BDPA Chapters for additional information, discounts, and direct access to emerging STEM programs.



Former Intern is New CEO

Historic Succession at Xerox



Ursula M. Burns is the new chief executive of Xerox Corporation and is the first African American woman to head a *Fortune 500* company. Burns joined Xerox in 1980 as a mechanical engineering summer intern and later assumed roles in product development and planning. From 1992 through 2000, Burns led several business teams including the office color and fax business and office network printing business. In 2000, she was named senior vice president, Corporate Strategic Services, heading up manufacturing and supply chain operations. She then took on the broader role of leading Xerox's global research as well as product development, marketing and delivery. In April 2007, Burns was named president of Xerox, expanding her leadership to also include the company's IT organization, corporate strategy, human resources, corporate marketing and global accounts. She was also elected a member of the company's Board of Directors. Burns was named chief executive officer in July 2009.

Burns earned her Bachelor of Science degree in mechanical engineering from Polytechnic Institute of NYU and a Master of Science degree in mechanical engineering from Columbia University. She serves on professional and community boards, including American Express Corp., CASA - (The National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse) at Columbia University, *FIRST [Robotics]* - (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology), National Academy Foundation, MIT, the U.S. Olympic Committee and the University of Rochester. —Xerox Corporation



The Honorable B. J. Penn 2009 NBDPA Lifetime Achievement Award

HIGHLIGHTS

Lifetime Member NBDPA
Lifetime Member NNOA

B.S. Degree
Purdue University

M.S. Degree
George Washington University

Aerospace Safety
University of Southern
California

National Security
for Senior Officials
Kennedy School
Harvard University

Numerous Defense Department
decorations and military
awards as a distinguished
Naval Aviator

PENTAGON — Mr. Penn assumed the responsibilities as Acting Secretary of the Navy March 13, 2009. He was appointed Assistant Secretary of the Navy (Installations and Environment) on 1 March 2005. In this position Mr. Penn is responsible for formulating policies, plans, and procedures for the effective management of Navy and Marine Corps real property, housing, and other facilities totaling 72,500 buildings and 4,484,000 acres with a plant replacement value of over \$215 billion; environmental protection, planning, conservation and compliance both ashore and afloat, as well as natural and cultural resource conservation and protection, environmental restoration, and marine resource protection; safety and occupational health for both military and civilian personnel; timely completion of closures and realignments of installations under base closure laws; the Competitive Sourcing program; and the U.S. - Japan agreement to realign U.S. forces in Japan and relocate 8000 Marines and their families from Okinawa to Guam.

Mr. Penn began his career as a Naval Aviator. He amassed over 6500 flight hours in sixteen different types of aircraft. He was EA-6B Pilot of the Year in 1972. Significant leadership assignments include: Executive Officer/Commanding Officer VAQ 33, Battalion Officer at the U.S. Naval Academy (including Officer-in-Charge of the Plebe Detail for the class of '83), Air Officer in USS *America*, Special Assistant to the Chief of Naval Operations, Commanding Officer of NAS North Island, CA, and Deputy Director of the Navy Office of Technology Transfer & Security Assistance.

Mr. Penn joined the Sector staff of Loral Federal Systems in 1995 as Director, International Business. Primary assignments involved airborne Electronic Warfare and Defensive Electronic Counter Measure Systems. When Lockheed Martin acquired Loral, he was assigned to the Corporate Staff to develop markets in Central and Eastern Europe. In 1998, he transferred to Naval Electronics and Surveillance Systems working Advanced Programs. In this capacity, he supported development of the Interoperability CONOPS for JSF, technology refreshment for the F-16 and development of Unmanned Aerial Vehicle and Autonomous Undersea Vehicle efforts and C4ISR initiatives.

Prior to becoming the Assistant Secretary of the Navy (I&E), Mr. Penn was the Director, Industrial Base Assessments from October 2001 to March 2005. In this position, he was responsible for the overall health of the U.S. Defense industrial base; the Department's policies and plans to ensure existing and future industrial capabilities can meet the Defense missions; guidelines and procedures for maintaining and enhancing and transformation of the Defense industrial base, industrial base impact assessments of acquisition strategies of key programs, supplier base considerations, and offshore production.



The Honorable B. J. Penn
Assistant Secretary of the Navy
(Installations and Environment)

Photo and biography courtesy United States Navy

Sabre Systems, Inc. is a proud supporter of **BDPA** and extends the warmest welcome to **BDPA Hampton Roads**

Sabre Systems, Inc. is a quality-driven, professional services company that provides worldwide technology, scientific, management and administrative services.



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2009 NBDPA Award Winners

HIGHLIGHTS

NBDPA Corporation of the Year
Johnson & Johnson

Best Company for Blacks in IT
Eli Lilly and Company

NBDPA Chapter of the Year
Philadelphia

★★★ Third Year in a row

National HSCC Champion
Southern Minnesota

★★★ Third Year in a row



Rosalind Shaffer
Eli Lilly and Company



Matthew Harvey
Eli Lilly and Company

The following NBDPA awards were announced by NBDPA during this year's 31st Annual National BDPA Technology Conference Awards Gala at the Raleigh Convention Center in Raleigh, NC.

2009 NBDPA Lifetime Achievement Award

The Honorable B. J. Penn, Assistant Secretary of the Navy
(Installations and Environment)

2009 National BDPA Election Results

President-Elect (2010-2011): Monique Berry [BDPA Philadelphia]

Vice President Finance (2010-2011): Charles Moore [BDPA Charlotte]

Global Corporate Awards

Epsilon Award - Best Company for Blacks in IT - Eli Lilly and Company

NBDPA Corporation of the Year/Corporate Champion of the Year - Johnson & Johnson

Epsilon Awards | Individual

Career Achievement - Joseph McMahon, Sabre Systems, Inc.

Professional Achievement - Rosalind Shaffer, Eli Lilly and Company

Community Service - Matthew Harvey, Eli Lilly and Company

National Awards

NBDPA Chapter of the Year - Philadelphia (3rd year in a row)

Developing Chapter of the Year - Northern Delaware

Community Services - Philadelphia

Best Managed Chapter - Northern Delaware

Professional Services Award - Cincinnati

Chapter Membership Award - Atlanta

Outstanding Chapter President - Monique Berry, The Vanguard Group, Inc.

Outstanding Contributor - Dana Sturdivant, Philips Corporation

National High School Computer Competition (HSCC)

First Place - BDPA Southern Minnesota Chapter (3rd year in a row)

Second Place - BDPA Detroit Chapter

Third Place - BDPA Washington, D.C. Chapter

Fourth Place - BDPA Twin Cities Chapter

Fifth Place - BDPA New York Chapter

IT Showcase (ITSC) College Awards

First Place - Frederick L. Smith III, California University (PA)

Second Place - Bryan Bemley, Bowie State University

Third Place - Jovanna Foreman, North Carolina Central University

IT Showcase (ITSC) High School Awards

First Place - Naaman Cephas, Paul M. Hodgson Vocational Technical High School; Newark, DE

Second Place - Marcus Smith, Pencader Charter School; New Castle, DE

Third Place - Whitney Wilson, Charter School of Wilmington; Wilmington, DE



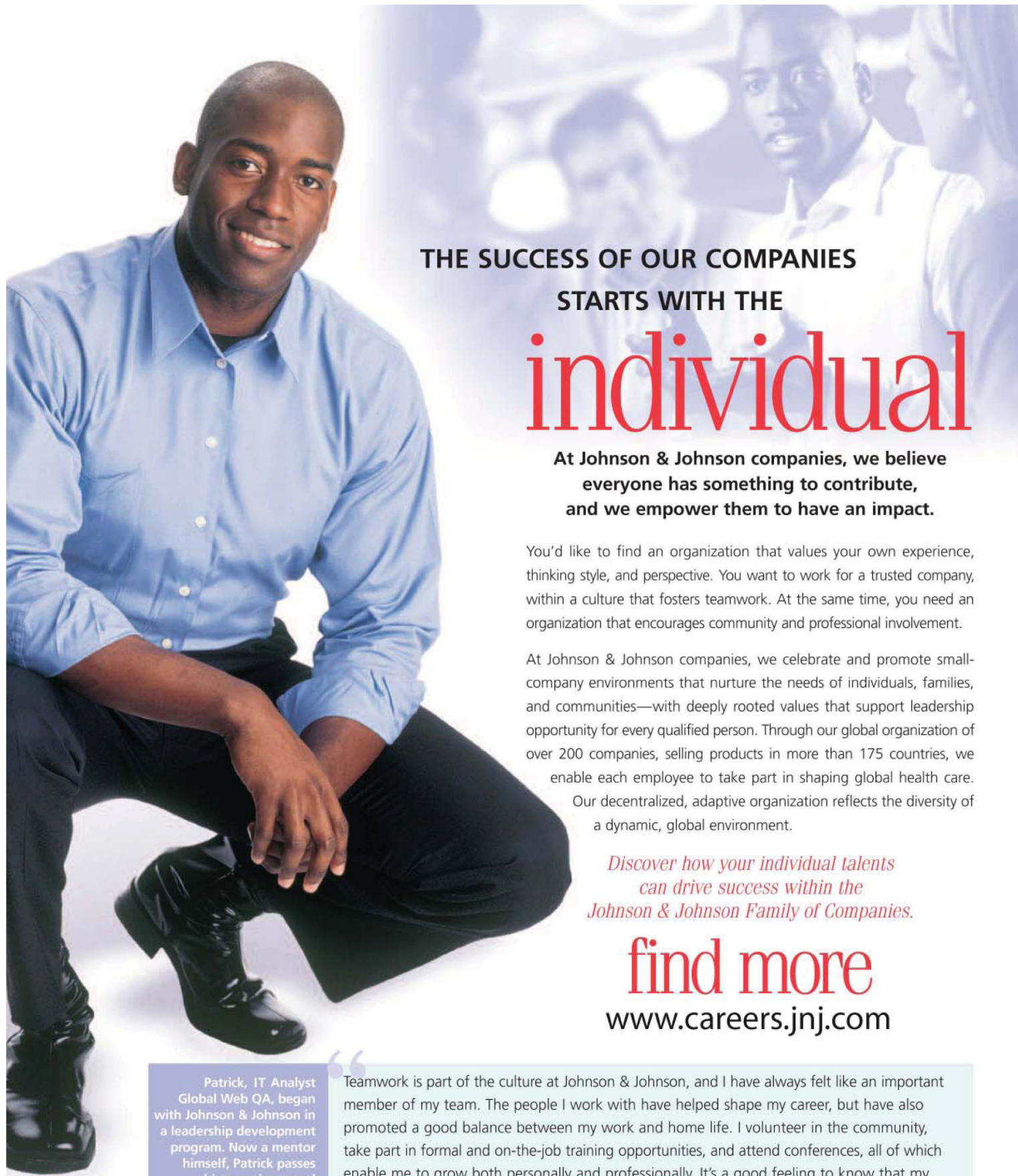
Monique Berry
Philadelphia Chapter



Charles Moore
Charlotte Chapter



Joseph McMahon
Hampton Roads Chapter



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Patrick, IT Analyst
Global Web QA, began
with Johnson & Johnson in
a leadership development
program. Now a mentor
himself, Patrick passes
his experience and
insights on to others.

“Teamwork is part of the culture at Johnson & Johnson, and I have always felt like an important member of my team. The people I work with have helped shape my career, but have also promoted a good balance between my work and home life. I volunteer in the community, take part in formal and on-the-job training opportunities, and attend conferences, all of which enable me to grow both personally and professionally. It's a good feeling to know that my personal development and interests are supported by my company.”

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Johnson & Johnson
Family of Companies

small-company environment
big-company impact™

Johnson & Johnson NBDPA IT Showcase 2009 Collegiate and High School Finalists

Johnson & Johnson

HIGHLIGHTS

National BDPA ITSC Finalists

Dr. Jesse L. Bemley

Vice Admiral Harry Harris, Jr.

2009 IT Showcase & NBDPA
Platinum Sponsor
Johnson & Johnson



BDPA photographs by Thomas Polk
bdpatoday

Vice Admiral Harry Harris, Jr., (right) US Navy, Deputy Chief of Naval Operations for Communications Networks (OPNAV N6) and Dr. Jesse L. Bemley (second from right) greet a few of this year's IT Showcase Finalists moments before NBDPA's 2009 Awards Gala. Pictured above (L-R) are Frederick L. Smith, III; Marcus J. Smith; Ms. Kenyatta Malloy and Mr. Anthony V. Clark. NBDPA's 2009 IT Showcase (ITSC) participants included (L-R) Pictured below are other NBDPA 2009 IT Showcase (ITSC) participants including (L-R) Mr. Marcus J. Smith, Wilmington, DE, Pencader Charter High School; Mr. Naaman R. Cephas, Newark, DE, Hodgson Vocational Technical High School; Ms. Whitney E. Wilson, Wilmington, DE, Charter School of Wilmington; Mr. Frederick L. Smith, III, Wilmington, DE, California University [PA]; Mr. Bryan C. Bemley, Washington, D.C., Bowie State University; Dr. Jesse L. Bemley, Joint Educational Facilities and National ITSC Coordinator; Anthony V. Clark, Washington, D.C., Edmund Burke School; Ms. Jovanna Foreman, Bayside, NY, North Carolina Central University; Ms. Kenyatta Malloy, Fort Washington, MD, Friendly High School, and Mr. Alexander Branch, Upper Marlboro, MD, Largo High School. Not pictured is Ms. Tiffany McCormick, North Carolina A&T State (Durham, NC); Mr. Tyrell Ferguson, North Point High School (Waldorf, MD) and Ms. Georgina Sealy, Medgar Evers College Preparatory School (New York, NY.)



HIGHLIGHTS

39th Annual Legislative Caucus
September 23-26, 2009
Washington Convention Center

www.cbcfinc.org



WASHINGTON – The Congressional Black Caucus Foundation each year produces the Annual Legislative Conference, a four-day event held in September at the Walter E. Washington Convention Center in Washington, D.C.

Thousands of elected officials, business and industry leaders, celebrities, media, emerging leaders and everyday Americans descended upon the Annual Legislative Conference (ALC) and its dozens of policy forums, general sessions, massive exhibit showcase, job fair, book signings and vast networking opportunities. The Congressional Black Caucus - comprised of the African-American members of the U.S. House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate - headline the ALC each year.

The conference brings together diverse organizations and individuals to collectively discuss common issues and concerns. Its program includes more than 70 workshops, seminars and information forums on relevant topics that capture and portray the concerns of African Americans. Participants discuss the challenges facing underserved populations, including health care, economic success and failures, global and domestic security as well as highlight successes and provide critical information that will help to build strong communities, organizations and individual families. The conference also features the successful Emerging Leaders Empowerment Series, which is gaining widespread attention as it speaks to our future successors. In addition, the exhibit hall offers demonstrations and social events to complement the substantive content of the conference.

The Annual Legislative Conference is one of the most important gatherings of African American leaders. They really need and want all constituents to seize this opportunity to speak freely and often about their concerns, to network and build relationships, and to gather as much information as possible to take home and share within their communities.

With Technology, Healthcare, and Education at the forefront, CBCF and NBDPA look forward to seeing you during this year's ALC September 23-26 in Washington, D.C.

BDPA Members should contact NBDPA's National Headquarters at 1.800.727.BDPA (2372) to be wait-listed for corporate sponsored receptions or VIP tickets to special CBCF/ALC events.





BDPA Education Technology Foundation Annual Giving Campaign

My gift of: ☐ \$20 ☐ \$50 ☐ \$1000 ☐ \$5000 ☐ \$ _____

☐ Unrestricted or

☐ Restricted to one of the following:



☐ BETF General Fund

☐ Student IT Education & Scholarship [SITES]

☐ BDPA Chapter: _____

☐ Other: _____

My employer: _____

☐ will

☐ Will not

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Contributions to BETF are tax deductible to the fullest extent of the law. BETF will return a receipt to you for income tax purposes. Please return this form with your check payable to BETF to the address below.

Thank you for your gift.

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Phone: 513-362-2703
Fax: 202-318-2194
Email: execdirector@betf.org
Web: www.betf.org

Career Upgrade Connections

Preparing for 2010, BDPA Chapters invite new communities to grow with NBDPA linking professional STEM development programs with local community outreach and IT services.

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*

Ongoing Events For 2009:

- ✓ CES 2009 (Las Vegas)
- ✓ America's new 111th Congress
- ✓ Inauguration of a new President
- ✓ Lotusphere 2009 (IBM | Orlando)
- ✓ Black Engineer of The Year Awards
- ✓ BDPA Day-On-The-Hill
- ✓ ITSMF Symposium and Gala (Dallas)
- ✓ SAPPHIRE 2009 (SAP | Orlando)
- ✓ Tech Summit '09 (Greater Columbia)
- ✓ TeraGrid '09 (Washington)
- ✓ Regional HSCC Competitions
- ✓ National BDPA Technology Conference (Raleigh, NC)
- ✓ National IT Showcase (Students)
- ✓ National HSCC Competition (Youth)
- Legislative Conference (CBCF/ALC)
- BDPA @ HBCU Football Classics
- Supercomputing 2009 (Portland, OR)
- I/ITSEC 2009 (M&S | Orlando)

Corporate sponsorships and member discounts are available by joining a local BDPA Chapter:

www.bdpa.org
800.727.BDPA (2372)



Important Dates
Be sure to check the SC09 Call for Participation for important dates and deadlines. Visit SC09.org to download your SC09 CFP.

November 14-20, 2009
Oregon Convention Center
Portland, Oregon

Super.

© SC09

SUPERCOMPUTING 2009 CONFERENCE PREVIEW

SC09 Broader Engagement (BE) Program

The SC09 Broader Engagement (BE) program is aimed at increasing the involvement of individuals who have been traditionally underrepresented in the HPC field. The program will offer a number of special activities at SC09 to stimulate interest within the SC conferences and the HPC community in general. Competitive grants will be available to support travel to and participation in the SC09 Technical Program by underrepresented groups. We encourage applications from all computing-related disciplines, including research, education, or industry. Consideration will be given to applicants from groups that traditionally have been underrepresented in HPC, such as African-Americans, Hispanics, Native Americans, Alaska Natives, Native Hawaiians, Pacific Islanders, the physically challenged, and women.

Questions? ➔ be@info.supercomputing.org

BDPA chapters provide additional information for local teams. Visit: www.bdpatoday.org

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 will work with CompTIA in 2010 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 and promote economic development. **bt**



Civilian Jobs at Space and
Naval Warfare Systems
Center (SPAWAR) Atlantic



SPAWAR Systems Center (SPAWARSYSCEN) Atlantic is doing real engineering to devise real solutions for real customers in real time. Together with their industry partners, they design, build, test, field, and support many of the finest front-line command, control, communications, computers, and intelligence systems (C4I) in use today or planned for the future. They are a growing U.S. Navy Engineering Command which provides great value to their customers and to their employees, too. Engineers are responsible for projects from the start and get into project management early. Training plans are developed for all employees to ensure they receive the on-the-job training, formal education, and mentoring necessary to keep their careers charged. Many engineering programs provide opportunities for worldwide travel. SPAWARSYSCEN Atlantic has a global presence with responsibilities directed toward supporting their sponsors' and customers' requirements worldwide.

<http://spawar.navy.mil>

Locations:

- Charleston, South Carolina
- Norfolk, Virginia
- New Orleans, Louisiana **bt**

bdpatoday | Join us in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania next August!



SCRUM—from Page 3

There are particular subsets of the **agile methodology**. These include Crystal Clear, Extreme Programming, Feature Driven Development, Dynamic Systems Development Method (DSDM), Scrum, and others. Of all the agile methodologies, Scrum is unique because it introduced the idea of “empirical process control.” That is, Scrum uses the real-world progress of a project — not a best guess or uninformed forecast — to plan and schedule releases. In revising philosophical approaches to software development, concrete processes that development teams depend on were not provided when deadlines — and stakeholders — start applying pressure. As a result, when it comes to the nuts and bolts of running a team with agile every day, organizations turn to above listed subsets of the agile methodology.

Scrum has three fundamental roles: **Product Owner**, **ScrumMaster**, and **team member**. In Scrum, projects are divided into succinct work cadences, known as sprints, which are typically one week, two weeks, or three weeks in duration. At the end of each sprint, stakeholders and team members meet to assess the progress of a project and plan its next steps. This allows a project's direction to be adjusted or reoriented based on completed work, not speculation or predictions.

Philosophically, this emphasis on an ongoing assessment of completed work is largely responsible for its popularity with managers and developers alike. But what allows the Scrum methodology to really work is a set of roles, responsibilities, and meetings that never change.

Sources: Scrum Methodology



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