WHAT'S INSIDE:

BDPA Members head to Washington, D.C. this month to attend the 2010 40th Annual Legislative Conference (ALC).

PAGES 3 & 4

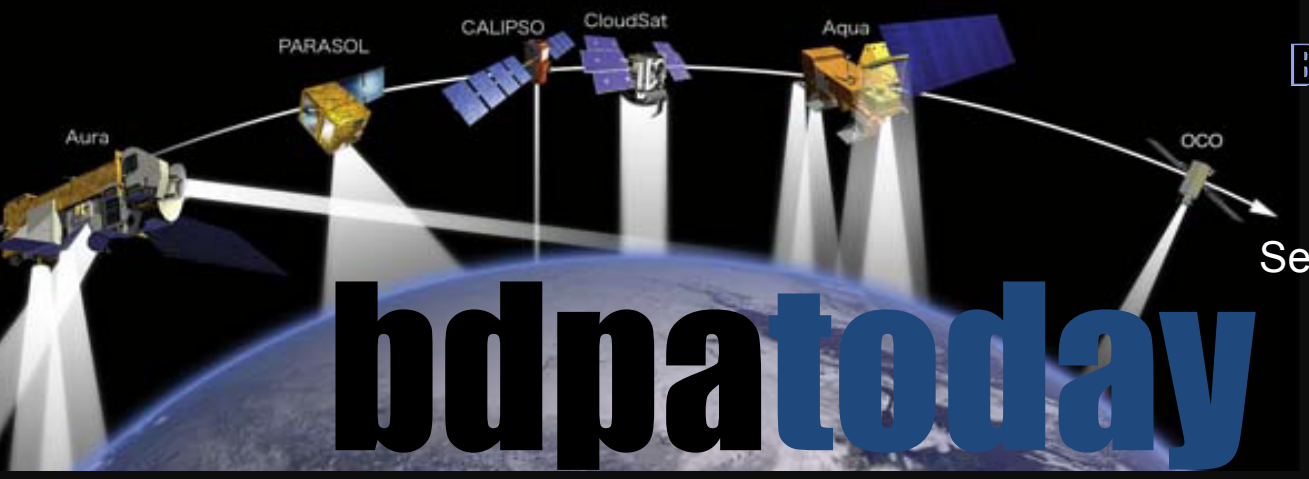
SC10 Preview

Special panels to convene on High Performance Computing (HPC) workforce development this November in New Orleans.

PAGE 10

Weather Satellites | Season for High Science

September historically marks the peak month for the Atlantic Hurricane Season and this year is no exception. NOAA's National Hurricane Center and NASA track active storms. Page 10



bdpatoday

September | 2010
Volume 35
Issue 09.10

Science.gov
Gateway to government science information
Page 13

American Honda Foundation Awards BETF $25,000

Support Includes new Funding for NBDPA Global STEM Programs | Page 5

Photo © Honda Motor Co., Ltd.

TOKYO, Japan—Pursuing the concept of "harmony with people" last year, Honda Motor Company developed a new personal mobility technology and unveiled their ***U3-X*** unicycle (pictured above), a compact experimental device that provides free movement in all directions just as in human walking - forward, backward, side-to-side, and diagonally. Honda continues its research and development of this device including experiments in real-world environments to verify the practicality of the device. *See* **Honda** *on Page 5*

File Photo: CBCF

Annual Legislative Conference

WASHINGTON – The Congressional Black Caucus Foundation (CBCF) will host its 40th Annual Legislative Conference (ALC) from September 15-18 at the Walter E. Washington Convention Center in Washington, D.C.

This year's conference theme

See **CBCF 40th ALC**, *page 4*

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NBDPA Lifetime Member Recognition | Founder's Club

NBDPA photo

PHILADELPHIA, PA—NBDPA's Lifetime Members were honored this summer during the organization's 35th anniversary celebration at the annual National BDPA Technology Conference and career fair hosted this year by NBDPA's Philadelphia Chapter. Above (L-R) are Admiral Gary Roughead, Chief of Naval Operations (CNO), Dr. William Bundy, U.S. Naval War College, former NBDPA Outside Director; and Earl A. Pace, Jr., NBDPA's Co-Founder.

Admiral Roughead and Dr. Bundy are among the first distinguished Lifetime Members recognized by the organization's Co-Founder. This year's Lifetime Member Recognition reception was co-sponsored by Deloitte and the IT Senior Management Forum (ITSMF). bt

See **Page 10** *August 2010 issue of* **bdpatoday**, *for a complete list of 2010 NBDPA Award Winners.*

Our Next MBE & IT Legislative Event

The Washington, D.C. Chapter of BPDA (BDPA-DC) is NBDPA's Host Chapter during the 40th *CBCF Annual Legislative Conference* September 15th-18th, 2010 at the Washington Convention Center and on Capitol Hill. Hosted by the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation (CBCF), this non-profit, non-partisan, public policy, research and educational institute aims to help improve the socioeconomic circumstances of African Americans and underserved communities by leveraging this powerful forum to help accomplish its mission.

NBDPA members and stakeholders continue to network during these legislative events to form special interest groups (SIGs) within their respective regions. BDPA Chapters provide technical and professional support along with professional development services while cultivating strategic industry partnerships. Visit our national Groupsite and other local chapter sites for events and related industry announcements. For more details or to find other local BDPA events in the National Capital Region (NCR), visit your host chapter's website at www.ncr-bdpa.org for BDPA event locations or call our national office at 800.727.BDPA (2372). bt

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

Are Funded STEM Initiatives an Integral Part of Your Legislative Agenda?

U.S. Senate

The U.S. Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation is composed of 25 Senators and led by Committee Chairman John D. (Jay) Rockefeller IV (D-WV) and Ranking Member Kay Bailey Hutchison (R-TX). The Subcommittee on Communications, Technology, and the Internet, Chaired by John F. Kerry (D-MA) has jurisdiction over legislation, Congressional action, and other matters relating to communications. For these purposes, "communications" includes telephones, cell phones, the Internet, commercial and noncommercial television, cable, satellite broadcast, satellite communications, wireline and wireless broadband, radio, consumer electronic equipment associated with such services, and public safety communications. The Subcommittee also is responsible for oversight of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), the Corporation for Public Broadcasting (CPB), and the National Telecommunications and Information Association (NTIA) at the Department of Commerce, which is the administration primarily responsible for the management of government spectrum and advising the President on telecommunication policy.

For current legislation and internship information, visit:

http://commerce.senate.gov

U.S. House of Representatives

The House Committee on Energy and Commerce has jurisdiction and primary legislative oversight pertaining to telecommunications, the supply and delivery of energy, interstate and foreign commerce, consumer protection, food and drug safety, public health, air quality and environmental health. Henry Waxman (D-CA) chairs this Committee, and Joe Barton (R-TX) is the Ranking Member. The Subcommittee on Communications, Technology, and the Internet oversees interstate and foreign telecommunications including, but not limited to all telecommunication and information transmission by broadcast, radio, wire, microwave, satellite, or other modes as well as Homeland security-related aspects of telecommunications, including cybersecurity. This Subcommittee is led by Rick Boucher (D-VA) and Cliff Stearns (R-FL).

For current legislation and internship information, visit:

http://energycommerce.house.gov

CBCF 40th ALC, from **Cover Page**

is: *Celebrating The Vision, Continuing The Journey, Advancing The Mission*.

ALC provides an outlet to highlight the mission of CBCF – to develop leaders, to inform policy and to educate the public. It also provides more than 85 forums to address the critical challenges facing the African-American community. The Foundation will offer numerous session tracks to present high level, thought-provoking, engaging and useful information. Also offered during the four-day event are free health screenings, a job fair, interactive financial sessions, networking opportunities and cultural activities.

"The Annual Legislative Conference brings together policy-makers, educators, businesspeople and civil rights leaders for our national town hall meeting to discuss education reform and how these reform efforts will bring better and additional jobs to our communities. This is an extension of some of our programmatic forums previously held around the country,"" said Elsie L. Scott, Ph. D., president and chief executive officer for CBCF. "There are 13 session tracks covering everything from economic security to health and wellness to education and emerging leaders."

U.S. Reps. Elijah E. Cummings of Maryland and Diane E. Watson of California are serving as honorary co-chairs of ALC. The conference is expected to draw nearly 12,000 officials, business and industry leaders, celebrities, media, emerging leaders and everyday Americans. The conference also includes a fundraiser awards dinner, exhibit showcase, book signings and community outreach in volunteering at a local homeless shelter.

"ALC is recognized as one of the most important gatherings of African-American leaders in the nation," said Rep. Donald M. Payne, chair of CBCF's board of directors. "In addition, attendees recognize the importance of what CBCF accomplishes in the community and have supported our efforts to provide scholarships, internships and fellowships, to improve economic parity and to decrease health disparities."

The Congressional Black Caucus Foundation, Inc., was established in 1976 as a non-partisan, non-profit, public policy, research and education institute to help improve the socio-economic circumstances of African Americans and other underserved communities. Attendees may register onsite at the Walter E. Washington Convention Center beginning September 15.

American Honda Foundation Awards $25,000 to BDPA Education and Technology Foundation

COLLEGE PARK, MD (BETF) – American Honda Foundation awarded a $25,000 grant to the BDPA Education and Technology Foundation (BETF), a nonprofit organization led by racially diverse CEOs and executive level management who promote educational programs for students of color in the information technology industry.

The grant funds will be used for our *Student Information Technology Education & Scholarship* (SITES) program. It will assist in supporting the administrative operation of the National BDPA efforts to support its 45 chapters in preparing and bringing students to the National High School Computer Competition (HSCC) held at the national BDPA Technology Conference each year. A portion of the funding will go to BDPA Southern Minnesota chapter to support the exceptional work they are doing with the youth in Minnesota.

"The American Honda Foundations' Board of Directors has decided to partner with the BETF in its efforts to make a difference in the lives of our youth," said AHF senior program officer Donna Hammond-Cotton. "In fact, the SITES program ranked number one out of the top 15 finalists! Not to mention that there were over 500 other proposals that we had to review for consideration this quarter."

BDPA served over 800 young people in the 2010 SITES program. The program culminated last month with the 2010 national BDPA HSCC held in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Five high school students from Rochester, Minnesota won the national championships with stiff competition by teams from Washington DC, Chicago, Detroit and St. Louis. The SITES program is poised for growth in all 45 chapters due to its ongoing success in raising students' performance in school.

"We're excited to work with American Honda Foundation to expand our SITES program, said BETF executive director Wayne Hicks. "We strongly believe that BDPA can advance the careers of these students from the classroom to the boardroom."

The SITES program effectively uses technology to stimulate and sustain the interest of young people in science and technology. BDPA seeks an increased interest from parents and students alike on basic science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) knowledge and integration of science, technology and math in their lives. BDPA is building a strong relationship with public school systems around the nation to entice high school students to participate in our program.

Founded in 1992, BETF is a 501(c)(3) foundation with a mission to locate and capture funding necessary to support educational and technology programs for NBDPA and others across the country. bt

Honda, from **Cover Page**

This new personal mobility device makes it possible to adjust speed and move, turn and stop in all directions when the rider leans the upper body to shift body weight. This was achieved through application of advanced technologies including Honda's balance control technology, which was developed through the robotics research of ASIMO, Honda's bipedal humanoid robot, and the world's first omni-directional driving wheel system (Honda Omni Traction Drive System, or ***HOT*** Drive System), which enables movement in all directions, including not only forward and backward, but also directly to the right and left and diagonally.

In addition, this compact size and one-wheel-drive personal mobility device was designed to be friendly to the user and people around it by making it easier for the rider to reach the ground from the footrest and placing the rider on roughly the same eye level as other people or pedestrians.

In April of this year, Honda first presented U3-X to the U.S. media in New York and then made its first U.S. demonstrations during the 2010 Society of Automotive Engineers (SAE) World Congress in Detroit, Michigan.

Photo © Honda R&D Co., Ltd.

Striving to propose the next-generation mobility which expands the joy and fun of mobility, Honda has been conducting robotics research since 1986, including ASIMO (**bdpatoday April 2009** issue), walking assist devices and U3-X, at the Honda R&D Co., Ltd. Fundamental Technology Research Center in Wako, Saitama, Japan. bt

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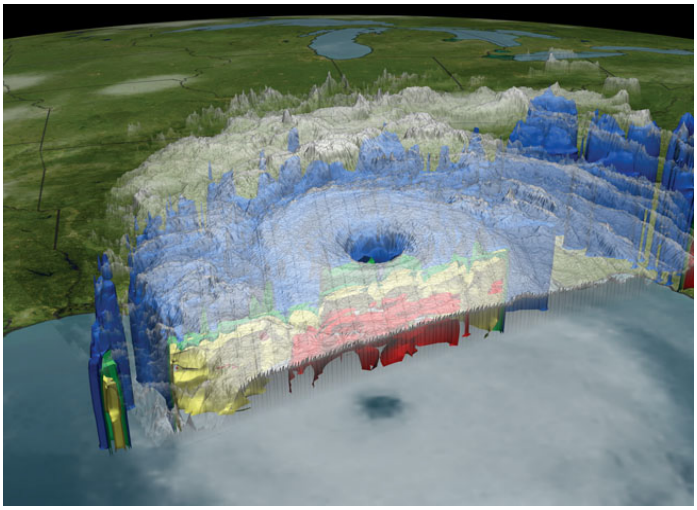

Photo courtesy: NOAA

EDWARDS AFB, CA—If Mother Nature is a grand scientist, then hurricanes are her swirling laboratories in the sky. These data-rich storm systems could hold the keys to better understanding severe weather, notably hurricane formation and intensity.

NASA photo

NOAA and NASA scientists sought to do just that on Aug. 28 when they conducted the **first-ever, high-altitude flyover of a tropical cyclone by an unmanned aircraft system**, NASA's Global Hawk.

The Global Hawk flew a 13-hour mission from Edwards Air Force Base in California to the Eastern Pacific basin, flying high over the low pressure system that was Hurricane Frank just a couple of days before.

NOAA and NASA shared the mission scientist role to advise the Global Hawk pilots — who operate the aircraft remotely from Edwards AFB — of the real-time aircraft track changes and conditions expected for its flying altitude of about 60,000 feet.

The mission scientists used a combination of NOAA and NASA real-time satellite products, superimposed with past, current and future positions of the Global Hawk, to decide where it should head to obtain the best possible data without placing the plane at risk of turbulence or other undesirable conditions for data collection. Based on the Global Hawk's first experience in a weaker tropical system, both NOAA and NASA are confident that the unmanned aircraft is ready to pursue more formidable targets later this season. bt

Supercomputing 2010

NEW ORLEANS, LA - A 'Special Topic' addressing critical workforce issues in High Performance Computing (HPC) will be featured at SC10, the premier international conference on high-performance computing, networking, storage and analysis, to be held in New Orleans, LA from November 13-19. The rapid growth of high performance computing (HPC) in industry and research is increasing the demand for expertise in HPC. This trend, coupled with declining enrollments in computing education, is creating a HPC workforce shortage affecting government, industry, and academia. To meet critical workforce needs, more skilled practitioners and researchers need to be trained.

"These workforce challenges affect all of us in the HPC community and we need to address them now to sustain the growth of HPC," said Jennifer Teig von Hoffman, SC10 Communities Chair. "With representatives from industry, government and academia in attendance, SC10 is the best forum to harness the innovative thinking that has made the HPC community so dynamic and focus it on developing solutions to these workforce issues. "

The goal of the Special Topic is to bring together HPC representatives from industry, research institutions, national labs and academia to assess workforce needs and explore innovative education and training approaches and identify trends affecting the HPC workforce over the coming decade with a focus on:

- Identifying and exploring specific skills and capabilities needed in the HPC workforce;
- Descriptions of existing and new approaches to increase the skilled workforce;
- Discussion of the trends and forces shaping HPC workforce needs;
- New education and training approaches over the next 5 and 10 years.

SC10, sponsored by IEEE Computer Society and ACM (Association for Computing Machinery) offers a complete technical education program and exhibition to showcase the many ways high performance computing, networking, storage and analysis lead to advances in scientific discovery, research, education and commerce. This premier international conference includes a globally attended technical program, workshops, tutorials, a world class exhibit area, demonstrations and opportunities for hands-on learning. bt

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For more information on NBDPA, NBDPA's academic, public, and private sector engagements for FY11 and 2011 National and Regional IT Showcase (**ITSC 11**) schedules, contact **Dr. Jesse Bemley** or **NBDPA** at 1.800.727. BDPA (2372).

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this issue's success story

American Honda Foundation awarded a $25,000 grant to the BDPA Education and Technology Foundation (BETF). The grant will be used to fund portions of NBDPA's *Student Information Technology Education & Scholarship* (SITES) program.

Inside our next issue:

GFY-11

Federal Fiscal Year 2011 Begins

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Small Businesses and Cyberspace

student programs: GET THEM INVOLVED!

NBDPA's SITES (Student Information Technology Education and Scholarship) initiative is designed to introduce students grades K-12 of African-American descent and underserved communities to the field of Information Technology (IT) and CS-STEM (Computer Science | Science. Technology. Engineering. Mathematics) disciplines through computer training by encouraging them to seek higher levels of education and grooming many of them to become our next generation of IT Professionals. Our programs are offered to students across the country at no cost to interested students. Contact NBDPA at **1.800.727.BDPA** (2372) for participating BDPA Chapters near you or visit our web site at **www.bdpa.org**.

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