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## College students battle for cyber defense championship

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White House Cybersecurity Coordinator [Howard Schmidt](#) led a contingent of U.S. congressmen and Department of Homeland Security officials to San Antonio this past weekend for a national championship contest: the finals of the Collegiate Cyber Defense Competition.

A team of eight students from Northeastern University took home the Alamo Cup, top honors in the fifth annual competition. Instead of slam dunks and half-court shots, 650 students from 83 universities scored points by detecting and repelling cyber intruders and maintaining availability of mail and web servers.

The University of Louisville took second and third place honors went to Cal Poly Ponomo. Schmidt commented that this event demonstrated the power of public and private partnerships in making the the Internet safer and developing the workforce of tomorrow.

*By Byron Acohido*

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By Collegiate Cyber Defense Competition