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Md. college students win cyber defense competition

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TOWSON, Md. - While the Washington area may be tops when it comes to [cyber criminals](#), our region is also a home to a growing number of cyber defenders-in-training.

A group of students at Towson University won the Mid-Atlantic Cyber Defense Competition. Their mission was to defend IT infrastructure from a cyber attack on a fictional town.

"They had two days to defend an entire network of computers from professional penetration testers and students of offensive network warfare," says Mike O'Leary, Director of Towson's Center for Applied Information Technology.

Also thrown into the mix was a scenario involving an earthquake that damaged the system's servers. O'Leary says extra preparation helped the team come home from the regional competition with a win.

There was more than a trophy for the students. The competition also hosted a job fair.

"Companies were throwing business cards at them like little ninja stars, trying to recruit them," O'Leary says.

The team will compete in the national competition being held in San Antonio, Texas from April 16-18.

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