

LOYOLA BLAKEFIELD CYBER SECURITY

SPRING 2023 NEWSLETTER



Foreword

On March 25th, LBCSI hosted its 6th annual Loyola Blakefield Cyber Challenge, or LBC2. Since August 2022, our Cyber Dons have been working hard to create an entirely student run and developed cyber competition. LBC2 is one of the highlights of LBCSI's year, and, in our last edition of the school year, we are excited to share everything that happened with you!

LBC2

Overview

Featuring over 120 competitors from 18 different schools and 10 different counties, this year was LBCSI's largest LBC2 yet. Beginning in August, LBCSI's Leadership Team has been hard at work creating challenges. This year, LBC2 featured a total of 8 image challenges and 89 Capture the Flag challenges, in no small part due to Product Developers Jack Wachter '24 and Anshul Chelapurath '23. In order to help beginners learn more efficiently and to challenge experienced competitors, attendees are split up by skill level into the Beginner and Veteran divisions; Beginners receive greater direction and more straightforward challenges while Veterans are given less help and more difficult challenges. Aside from the competition, the day also featured many raffles hosted by Andrew Hill, the day's Emcee and free breakfast and lunch. We were also visited by Mr. Razvan Miutescu, who we are working with to bring LBCSI to Romania, much like our time in Australia, Singapore, and Estonia.

Competition Day

On March 25th, LBC2 opened its doors to competitors at 8:00 am. All competitors were greeted with a breakfast buffet courtesy of the Scholtes Family. At 9, Emcee Andrew Hill kicked off the day by starting the first round: the ComTech Image Round. Competitors were given 4 assorted Linux and Windows images, with the Veteran Division receiving more difficult images than the Beginner Division. They worked through many different challenges and skills such as Threat Hunting, Active Directory, Red Team, and Bash Scripting. During this time, Mr. Morrill held a parent track where competitors' parents were invited to talk with him and guest speaker

Michael R. DiGiacomo on the importance of cyber security, workforce development, and digital literacy. At 11:30, the Image Round concluded and everyone enjoyed a complimentary lunch from Chick Fil A. Once lunch ended, Andrew started the Capture the Flag round. Capture the Flag challenges contain a clue or file, and competitors are tasked with retrieving a string of text, or flag from the clue. Competitors encountered challenges with elements of Cryptography, Web Exploitation, Forensics, Programming, and more. The day ended at 3:00 with Andrew announcing each Division's winners.

Competition Results

The Beginner Division finished with CHC HON. PROGRAMMING in third with 59.4 points, Falcons3 in second with 62.6 points, and Internet Explorers in first with 68.8 points. In the Advanced Division, the Raiders finished third with 20.1 points, team HiSteveMorrill taking second with 26.9 points, and team Falcons One finishing just .1 points ahead with 27.0 points to win LBC2! Competitors: if you would like to know where your team finished on the leaderboard or look over solved challenges, we will be sending out a full LBC2 overview and a master writeup on challenges shortly.

Special Thanks

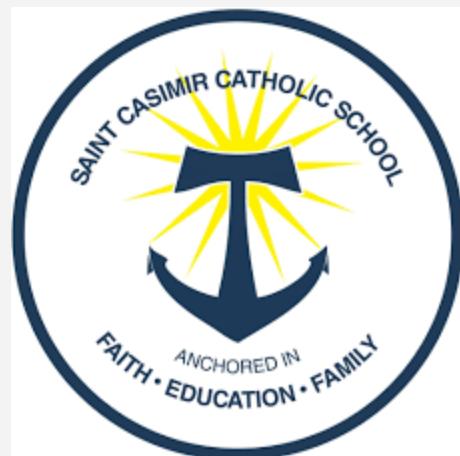
On behalf of the entire LBCSI community, we would like to thank LBC2's generous sponsors: The Edward St. John Foundation, Hartman Business Advisors, the Federal Business Council, Skyline, GS Consulting, Loyola Blakefield Board Member Mr. Cooke, the Governor's Workforce Development Board, and Infiniti Technologies. Additionally, a huge thank you to Harford Computer Group for supplying numerous raffle prizes, ComTech for supplying their image hosting platform, The CyberWire for press coverage, and the Scholtes Family (parents of Ben Scholtes '23) for sponsoring breakfast. LBC2 would not be possible without your generous contributions.

Images from the Competition



Social Media Presentations

Continuing our speaking circuit, LBCSI has visited another 3 schools to present on social media awareness! Our team visited St. Casimir School, St. Joseph-Fullerton School, and St. Augustine School. During our visits, Mr. Morrill and Field Operation leads Teddy Marine '24 and Charlie Hale '23 were accompanied by Will Pipkin '24 at St. Joseph and Noah Morraye '23 at St. Augustine School. To finish our year, LBCSI will be visiting Resurrection - St. Paul this May! As always, we are eager to speak to any group on social media awareness and digital reputation, so if you or someone you know could benefit from a presentation, please feel free to email Field Operators Teddy Marine '24 (ejmarine2024@loyolablakefield.org) and Jack Wachter '24 (jmwachter2024@loyolablakefield.org).



Casino Night

During the eventful evening in Wheeler Lounge, our Dons hit the tables during our third annual Casino Night! Mentor Leads Andrew Hill '23 and Noah Morraye '23 organized games such as Blackjack and Poker were played. After the chips were tallied, Aidan Sachs '24 won it all and took the prize of a \$25 gift card. Other small prizes included a Samsung Watch, a portable game console, and candy. The night was full of amazing food and memories that will last a lifetime. We are happy to announce that plans for next year have already been discussed. We hope to see everyone there again!



LBCSI Banquet

On April 26th, we held our annual LBCSI banquet, a time to reflect on the past year and honor our graduating seniors. Food was delicious brisket sandwiches catered by Ryleigh's Oyster Bar and supplied by Roseda Farm's beef. The night kicked off with Mr. Morrill recapping important events of the year such as the CyberPatriot Season, our visit to Estonia, and LBC2. Awards were given to exemplary CyberPatriot teams: Team Aurelius and Charlie's Angels took first and second in the Platinum Division, respectively. Additionally, teams Ratatoullie, Micro Dons, and Da Dons swept the Middle School Division, finishing first, second, and third, respectively. Next, Mr. Morrill announced this year's Antoine Kallab '17 Cyber Science Scholarship awardees, Teddy Marine '24 and Jack Wachter '24. Additionally, the Blue Team Leader scholarship, established by the Woolford Family Foundation, was commended to James Keller '24. To end the night, the seniors looked back on their highschool experience and were invited to speak on their experiences in Cyber.



Graduating Seniors

We would like to congratulate all seniors in the Class of 2023 on their hard work and what they have accomplished. Their efforts are what make Loyola Blakefield Cyber Security the community that it is and we would undoubtedly be far worse off without you all. Here are the colleges our seniors will be attending:

Benham Celaya	Case Western
Owen Wroten	High Point
Andrew Hill	UMCP - ACES
Nathan Li	UMCP - ACES
Matthew Seal	Villanova
Brendan Reiners	Boston College
Sam Cucuzella	University of Delaware
Chris Coady	Ohio State University
Brendan Herwig	James Madison University
Alex Boulay	Virginia Tech
Brendan McLaughlin	Virginia Tech
Noah Morraye	Towson University
Nick Jacob	University of Notre Dame
Charlie Hale	U.S. Naval Academy
Anshul Chelapurath	Georgia Tech
Ben Scholtes	Butler University

Incoming Leadership Team

With our current seniors fast departing, we are excited to announce the new '23-'24 leadership team!

Field Operations:

Jack Wachter '24

Teddy Marine '24

Lab Managers:

Will Pipkin '24

Matthew Johnson '24

Michael Litrenta '24

Training Leads:

James Keller '24 (Cisco)

Ben Frederick '24 (Windows)

Jack Anderson '24 (Linux)

Product Developers:

Henry Craig '24

Ryan Wachter '26

Mentor Leads:

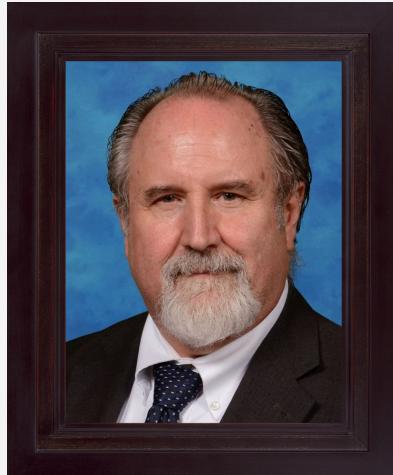
Kieran Ellis '24

Aidan Sachs '24

As always, we are incredibly excited to see what our new team has in store for next year. Be sure to tune in next year to see all they accomplish!

In Memory of Mr. Stephen Kucharski

The Loyola community was deeply saddened by the unfortunate passing of Mr. Kucharski. Stephen Kucharski was a staff member at Loyola Blakefield for 38 years and a constant advocate for the Cyber Security Club. He was an invaluable asset to Loyola and the Club and he will be missed.



Thank you Sponsors

Thank You to our sponsors on behalf of the entire LBCSI program. We would like to thank all of our partners who graciously invest their resources in LBCSI. We are grateful for your continued support and guidance over the past eleven years. We want to specifically thank our presenting partner: The Edward St. John Foundation, and cornerstone partner T. Rowe Price. A special thank you goes out to the Edward St. John Foundation President, Ms. Sharon Akers. We appreciate the continued interest in the development of our cyber students, and we look forward to continuing our work with these sponsors in the future.



Thank you all for taking the time to read this year's Spring Newsletter! We are very excited to see what next year's Field Operations team has in store! This is a very exciting time for the program and we have full faith and confidence in the new leadership team! As always, Roll Dons and Beat Army.

We hope you are all doing well and staying healthy.

Thanks again,

Charlie Hale '23,

Teddy Marine '24

Mr. Stephen Morrill,

The entirety of Loyola Blakefield's Cyber Science Initiative

