FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Pensacola State's cybersecurity team wins a 1st place at ITEN summit

Pensacola State College's Cybersecurity team captured a first-place win at the ITEN (Innovation Technology Entrepreneurship Network) Wired 2016 Summit held Oct. 12-14, 2016, at Pensacola Beach.

Team members – Alex Huggett, Charles Bailey, Patrick Owens, Daniel Pieknik, Josh Erlitz, Brandon Harter, Noah Jowers and faculty member James De Stael – defeated teams from the University of West Florida and Gulf Coast State College in the Cyber Defense category.

Gulf Coast State came in second in the competition and UWF finished in third place.

The annual summit, hosted by IT Gulf Coast and Florida West Economic Development Alliance, provides networking and learning opportunities for executives, entrepreneurs, technology professionals and academia to foster economic development efforts surrounding innovation, technology, and entrepreneurship.

Pieknik, the team's captain, said the entire team prepared for the competition and it paid off.

"We had to defend an entire network from an unknown number of cyber threats because that is what you do in the real world. It was pretty intense 4 ½ to 5 hours of competition but we're glad we were able to prevail and come out on top," he said.

He added the entire team learned from the competition.

"It was a real learning experience for us; we put in a lot effort for this event and are now better prepared for CyberThon 2017 in January," he said.

CyberThon 2017 is set for Jan. 20-27 at the Naval Flight Academy and National Naval Aviation Museum in Pensacola.

Robert Pratten, Pensacola State's assistant professor of the Information Technology Programs, said he is extremely proud of the team.

"This is a great group of guys who really worked hard and prepared for the ITEN Wired Summit," he said. "They're all capable and I know they will remain great students in the classroom."

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Pensacola State College's Cybersecurity team won a first-place in the Cyber Defense category at the ITEN (Innovation Technology Entrepreneurship Network) Wired 2016 Summit. Pictured are team members – Alex Huggett, Charles Bailey, Patrick Owens, Daniel Pieknik, Brandon Harter and faculty member James De Stael. Also pictured is Robert Pratten, PSC assistant professor of the Information Technology Programs and the team's adviser. Team members Josh Erlitz and Noah Jowers are not pictured.
Pensacola State College photo