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The Weekly Top Five

(Source: HPCwire)

The Weekly Top Five features the five biggest HPC stories of the week, condensed for your reading pleasure. This week, we cover the computing power on display at SC10's Student Cluster Competition; the University of Portsmouth's new supercomputer; IBM Watson's Linux platform; multicore advances at North Carolina State; and Intel's new approach to university funding.

SC10's Student Cluster Competition Raises the Bar

The student team from Louisiana State University was one of three teams to break the teraflop barrier at SC10's Student Cluster Competition. This is the first year that any team has achieved that distinction, and the honor is shared with teams from the University of Texas and National Tsing Hua University (Taiwan).

In the Student Cluster Competition at SC10, which took place in New Orleans in November, eight teams gathered from around the country and from as far away as Russia and Taiwan to design and build clusters that solve real-world problems. The teams prepared for months working with their advisors and vendor partners. Winning teams were selected by a panel of experts, based on visualization output, presentations and interviews.

The LSU students received vendor support from HP and LATG, Mellanox, Portland Group and Adaptive Computing and were advised by Isaac Traxler, Unix Services Manager at LSU's High Performance Computing (HPC) and Center for Computation & Technology. Under Traxler's tutelage, the students sepnt one night a week for six months working on the project, in addition to many hours spent working on their own.

With 144 cores, the LSU cluster executed the competition's four open source applications while staying within the 26 Amp constrained power limit.

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