

## A Note from Tom Silver

March is upon us and that means, even in today's tough environment – college hoops.

Those of us who follow basketball are getting pretty excited as the NCAA tournament approaches. And let's face it: taking a break this month from the economic madness may do us all a bit of good. So when I sat down to write this, I began to think about what basketball and technology have in common.

Sound like a stretch? Talk to Mike Bergman. He's a consultant who works as an administrator of Dice's CRM system. A veteran of Iowa State University's men's basketball team, he went to the NCAA tourney in 1992 playing for legendary Coach Johnny Orr.

Mike's worked in technology since he graduated from ISU in 1995. He started as a mainframe programmer and learned Siebel when he "raised his hand for a project." Like a lot of successful tech professionals, he was intrigued by the idea of getting into something new.

"Thinking back, it surprises me the things I learned in basketball that I really carry forward every day," he tells me. Indeed, he sees more parallels than distinctions. The ability to work with others, to take on assignments that may not be glamorous but are necessary, the drive to keep yourself sharp -- they're all as integral to success in the data center as they are on the court. "In basketball, things change so rapidly, you always have to work on your game. The same's true in technology," Mike points out.

Basketball looks simple, but it requires endurance, discipline and great skill to play it well. Success in IT, too, requires a wider set of talents than most people recognize. As Mike says, technology is "more than just you and your computer trying to make ones and zeros all work together."

Enjoy this edition of the Dice Report, take a time out – if you can – to watch some March Madness, and put your hand up to learn about something new.

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## Dice by the Numbers

As of March 2, 2009\*

Available Tech Jobs: 54,301

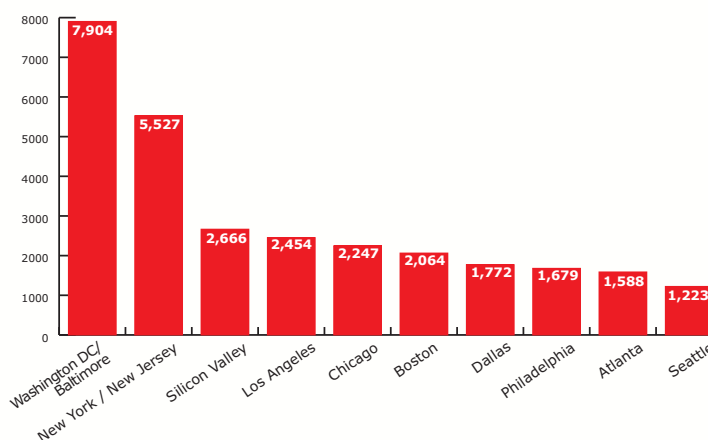
Full-time Positions: 35,570

Contract Positions: 23,545

Part-time Positions: 1,211

## Top Tech Metro Areas

Based on number of jobs posted by zip code on Dice as of March 2, 2009\*



## Top Tech Skills

Based on number of jobs posted by tech skill on Dice as of March 2, 2009\*

### Operating Systems

1. Windows – 9,365
2. Unix – 7,425

### Databases

1. Oracle – 10,080
2. SQL – 7,891

### Programming Languages

1. C, C++, C# – 9,881
2. J2EE/Java – 9,267

## Dice.com Tech Topic Poll

With March Madness just around the corner, do you watch the games at work?

**8%** Yes, my manager is a hoops fan.

**13%** Yes, but I have to sneak.

**11%** No, it's restricted by our filtering infrastructure.

**68%** No, work is for work.

\* A single job posting may reflect more than one skill, location or type of position; therefore, total figures for these attributes may be greater than total jobs posted.