

NEWS RELEASE

Wilfrid Laurier
University



Thornhill students win national stock market competition

Westmount Collegiate students turn virtual \$100,000 into more than \$400,000

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WATERLOO (Ont.) – Westmount Collegiate Institute in Thornhill is producing the star traders of tomorrow. Five Westmount students have won Wilfrid Laurier University’s Fall 2001 National Secondary School Stock Market Competition by quadrupling their portfolio, while their schoolmates finished first in their region.

This year’s national winners are Sanjay Panchal, Marci Ullman, Jared March, Vladimir Amurjuev and Marcie Perez. They turned their virtual portfolio of \$100,000 into one worth \$425,876, primarily by trading in call options in Celestica Inc., BCE Emergis Inc. and JDS Uniphase Inc., as well as put options in Ballard Power Systems Inc. Their advising teacher, Bill Schoenhardt, can be reached at (905) 882-0277.

Schoenhardt also advised Michael Pinkus, Dean Abramsohn, Michael Abrams and Steven Plunkett. The Westmount team won in the Greater Toronto Area by finishing with a portfolio value of \$396,440.

The competition took place between September 17 and December 6 – a time during which all sectors of the market were deeply affected by the events of September 11.

“This year’s competitors faced an incredibly volatile market,” said Sandra Hughes, director of the stock market competitions. “Students brought back excellent portfolios and made impressive profits at a time when many large corporations were suffering. Their strategies were well thought out.”

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The national competition included 521 teams and 107 schools from across the country. The national winners receive \$500 in cash and a \$1,000 scholarship to Laurier. At the regional levels, teams receive \$250 for finishing in first place, \$100 for second and \$50 for third.

This year's regional winners are:

- ^ Ontario (North and East) – Jason MacDonnell and Luc Lamarche of Mother Teresa High School in Nepean finished with a final portfolio value of \$249,133 through buying and selling equities in Air Canada, Nortel Networks, Bell Canada International Inc., Global Thermoelectric Inc. and Exfo Electro-Optical Engineering Inc. Advising teacher Carol Brooks can be reached at (613) 823-1663
- ^ Ontario (Toronto) – Chris Spyridis, Matthew Karellas, Sam Moini and Aydin Chamanchi of Sir John A. MacDonald Collegiate Institute in Agincourt finished with \$190,348. The team made their profits through multiple equity purchases in Nortel Networks Inc. and Celestica Inc. Advising teacher Rose LoStracco, (416) 396-6793
- ^ Ontario (South and West) – Chris Hesketh, Peter Karomountzos, Amy Gaertner and Jenn Hodder of A.B. Lucas Secondary School in London finished with \$193,931. The majority of their profits were made through equity buys in Celestica Inc., Ballard Power Systems Inc., BCE Emergis Inc., Biovail Corporation and Angiotech Pharmaceuticals Inc. Advising teacher Dave Dodge, (519) 452-2600.
- ^ Eastern Canada – Chris Allen, Mike Gillies, Matt Hannouche and Stephen Sebastyan of Loyola High School in Montreal finished with a portfolio value of \$195,176 through straight equity purchases of companies like Air Canada and Nortel Networks Inc. Advising teacher Francis Scardera, (514) 486-1101.
- ^ Western Canada – Manbir Sangha, Sunny Dosangh and Paul Sangha of Queen Elizabeth Secondary School in Surrey B.C. finished with \$193,681 made from equity purchases of Nortel Networks Inc., Ballard Power Systems Inc. and Cryptologic Inc. Advising teacher Morris Blackmore, (604) 588-1258.

Laurier began organizing educational competitions involving the stock market in 1972 and now runs national simulations at the secondary, university/college and MBA levels. Held twice each year, the competitions teach students about investing through direct interaction with the markets.

Sponsors include the TSE, National Post, CGI Group Inc., Sun Microsystems, Institutional Equity Traders Association of Toronto and Bell Canada.

BACKGROUND



The Toronto Stock Exchange -- Centre for Knowledge Excellence

The TSE supports and sponsors a variety of programs geared towards investor education and market policy analysis including the Wilfrid Laurier University Stock Market Competition, the University of Toronto Capital Markets Institute, and the J.F. Kimber Fellowship. As well, the TSE's interactive visitor centre, Stock Market Place, provides investors of every level with information and education on the securities industry.

The TSE is a pivotal enabler of economic growth in Canada. Economic growth depends on the availability of capital and its effective use. Our role is to bring those with capital together with those who are prepared to use it to build businesses, create jobs, make investments and accumulate savings in Canada for Canadians. We are in a unique position to make a difference and we do.

The TSE believes "educated" investors will actively and confidently participate in the capital markets. Increasing the number of active investors helps to build trading activity as well as liquidity that results in a healthy capital market system.

The Toronto Stock Exchange is committed to educating investors and the public about the capital markets system.

Symposia Series

The series is national in scope: each symposium will be presented by one of Canada's many business schools at a different location throughout the country. It will foster dialogue and debate on issues facing Canada's capital markets by bringing together a broad range of experts and practitioners from coast to coast and internationally from academic, government, and private sectors. It will also provide an educational forum in which to increase public knowledge and understanding of such issues.

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A symposium will be held every six months, addressing various themes relevant to the efficiency of our capital markets.

Speaker Series

The Canadian Foundation for Investor Education (CFIE) will be introducing a new and exciting seminar series entitled “CFIE Exchanges”. The Exchanges series will host speakers in major urban centres across Canada in an effort to generate national awareness of the CFIE; its initiatives and issues relevant to capital markets.

Audiences will benefit from participating in knowledgeable, informative and thought-provoking discussions provided by recognized members of the financial community.

The Wilfrid Laurier University Stock Market Competition

The Toronto Stock Exchange has been the primary sponsor of the Wilfrid Laurier University National Secondary School Stock Market Competition since its inauguration in 1983. The competition, which runs in two 12-week national sessions, provides secondary students with the opportunity to participate in a realistic stock market simulation through a computer supported and administered program. Students are evaluated on their portfolio performance, their stock selection ability and trading techniques used in the mock investment of \$100,000 on The Toronto Stock Exchange.

Capital Markets Institute of the University of Toronto

The Toronto Stock Exchange donated \$2.75 million to establish a Capital Markets Institute at the University of Toronto. The Institute, which entails two fully endowed academic chairs at the Faculty of Law and the Rotman School of Business, brings together academics and leaders in law, industry and government to conduct research in the area of Canadian capital markets and related public policy.

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J.F. Kimber Fellowship

The Kimber Fellowship is a program that brings distinguished speakers from the legal, academic and business communities, domestic and international, to meet and conduct lectures with members of the investment community and at the Faculty of Law at the University of Toronto and Osgoode Hall Law School at York University.

Studies and Conferences

The Toronto Stock Exchange sponsors the research and publication of major studies on market issues and hosts related conferences. Recent examples include the final report of the Securities Industry Committee on Analyst Standards, the Mining Standards Task Force Report, the Dey Report on Corporate Governance, the Allen Report on Corporate Disclosure and the Kirzner Report on Equity Market Fragmentation. These initiatives contribute significantly to public policy debate on various industry issues.

Free Resources

The TSE provides a number of brochures and other materials free of charge. For more information, contact us at info@tse.com.

For more information on the TSE's education programs, please visit our website www.tse.com or call 416-947-4670.