

NEWS RELEASE

Wilfrid Laurier University



Ontario students win national stock market competition

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Note: Regional winners follow

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WATERLOO, Ontario - A team of five students from Thornlea Secondary School in Thornhill, Ontario have won Wilfrid Laurier University's Secondary School National Stock Market Competition for high school students.

The five students: Jonathan Greenbaum, Dan Jankelow, Jordan Lubek, Elliot Shapero and Mark Swartz, turned an initial \$100,000 investment into \$165,573.08 during the 12 week trading simulation that began in February.

Sandra Kuehl, manager of the competition, said many of the students' portfolios were influenced by the Bre-X scandal.

"Bre-X threw a wrench into the strategy and totals of some of the participants. It was a highly volatile stock. Some teams did very well with the stock and others lost."

The team of winning students will receive a \$500 prize courtesy of the Toronto Stock Exchange, individual plaques, certificates and a trophy for the school. One member of the winning team, judged by the teacher to have contributed the most, will also receive a \$1,000 scholarship from Laurier. The winners will be honored at an awards dinner to be held Tuesday, June 3 at Laurier. Another eight teams from across Canada won regional awards in the contest, which involved 1,000 teams from 200 high schools.

The Stock Market Competition was established in 1968 as part of the first-year business program at Laurier. It was later played by high school students across Ontario, and went national in 1983. The competition begins again in September. (More...)

The competition attempts to give contestants a realistic understanding of how the Canadian stock market operates. Teams watch stock market quotations in daily newspapers and use e-mail or the Internet to send their daily buy and sell orders to the University. In return, the students receive a transaction report.

Kuehl says students gain experience whether or not their portfolio does well. "The competition provides students with a realistic means to learn about investing in the stock market."

Sponsors of the high school competition are: The Toronto Stock Exchange, Spectra Securities Software Inc., Sun Microsystems of Canada Inc., Star Data Systems Inc., Canadian Securities Institute, Institutional Equity Traders Association (of Toronto), Vancouver Security Traders Association, RBC Dominion Securities Inc., Richardson Greenshields of Canada Ltd., and Bell Canada.

The regional winners (listed below) will receive \$250 to be divided among the team members, individual certificates and a school trophy.

British Columbia/Yukon: Patrick Tuckey, Matthew Robinson, Prashant Navaratnarajah, Colin Johnson, Darryn Beuthin of Glenlyon-Norfolk Senior School in Victoria, British Columbia, with \$125,361.98. National ranking, 5. Advising teacher: Scott Clazie.

Alberta Region: Brett Doran, Curtis Laboucane, Thanh Thi Tran, Jena Misiak, Lisa Biffert of Victoria School in Edmonton, Alberta, with \$101,688.60. National ranking, 57. Advising teacher: Bryson Murray.

Saskatchewan and Manitoba Region: Anna Penner, Sarah Nesbitt, Dorice Tepley of Balmoral Hall School in Winnipeg, Manitoba with \$108,607.10. National ranking, 16. Advising teacher: Donna Alexander.

Ontario - South and West: Jessica Belez, Neveen Francis, Nancy McKay, Julie Schmidt, Robin Spence of Waterloo Oxford District Secondary School in Baden, Ontario with \$112,033.73. National ranking, 13. Advising teacher: Don Upper.

Ontario - North and East: Mark Aronson, Nicholas Carter, Cal Cheney and Paul Fenwick of Nepean High School in Ottawa, Ontario with \$160,822.17. National ranking, 4. Advising teacher: Harriet Podolak.

Ontario -Greater Toronto: David Desoer, Don Moonis, Mahmoud Pouladi, Sandy Wong of Westmount Secondary School in Hamilton, Ontario with \$116,259.44. National ranking, 9. Advising teacher: Helen Valenzuela.

Quebec Region: Nick Dobbeck, James Elian, Ryan Mallette of Loyola High School in Montreal, Quebec with \$105,801.60. National ranking, 22. Advising teacher: Francis Scardera.

Maritime Region: Hayley Stockley, Chris Davis of Gander Collegiate in Gander, Newfoundland with \$104,663.01. National ranking, 27. Advising teacher: Bronson Collins.

The national winners can be reached through their teacher, Mr. Marney Pollock, at (905) 889-9696.