

# NEWS RELEASE

Wilfrid Laurier  
University



**Thornhill students takes top prizes in national stock competition  
Thornlea Secondary School wins national award, plus first and second place in its region**

**For Immediate Release**

**January 07, 1999  
02-99**

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WATERLOO — High school students in Thornhill appear to have discovered the secret to doubling — and even tripling — a stock portfolio. Three teams from Thornlea Secondary School have finished this fall's Laurier Secondary School Stock Market Competition well ahead of over 700 other groups from across the country.

Mike Hagiwara, Sean Kane, Dina Kleinman and Linda Yoo emerged as the national winners. In just twelve weeks, the group grew a mythic \$100,000 portfolio into one worth \$303,186. Five schoolmates finished the competition with the second-largest portfolio, valued at \$218,502, and captured a first-place regional prize. A third group from Thornlea finished with \$177,595 to rank third nationally and claim second place in its region.

Marney Pollock, the teacher who advised the groups, explained that the Thornlea students succeeded by diversifying their portfolios, trading a great deal and focusing on call options. The national winners invested heavily in Nortel Networks options.

"They all traded a lot. They were very active," said Pollock. "Our national winners bought Nortel options when they were in the low 50s and sold when they were close to 65. They sold them for many times more than what they paid."

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Laurier's stock market competition has been challenging high school students, while helping them develop a realistic understanding of how Canada's stock markets operate, since 1972. Teams track stock quotations in the daily newspaper or over the World Wide Web and trade from the University's interactive website (<http://invest.wlu.ca>).

Close to 900 teams – involving 4,200 students from across the country – now compete in one or both of two annual competitions. The team that finishes a competition with the largest portfolio is named the national winner and receives an array of prizes from Laurier and from the competition's major sponsor, the Toronto Stock Exchange.

There are also eight regional winners. This year they are:

**British Columbia** – Matthew Brouwer and Chris Blake of Fraser Lake Secondary School won by finishing with a portfolio worth \$161,714. The advising teacher was Gerald Brise. He can be reached at 250-699-6233.

**Alberta** – Suzanne Huynh, Sandi Lau, Alex Leung, Kiri Nichol and Steve Westbrook of Sir Winston Churchill High School in Calgary finished with 119,900. Advisor: Gerry Donaldson, 403-289-9241.

**Saskatchewan/Manitoba** – Alma Trinidad, Alex Mariano and Leah Liberato of Maples Collegiate in Winnipeg finished with \$129,638. Advisor: Gordon Boyko, 204-632-6641.

**Ontario (Toronto)** – Steve Birman, Adam Korson, Daniel Sobel, Jason Saxe and Daniel Eisen of Thornlea Secondary School finished with \$218,502. Advisor: Marney Pollock, 905-889-9696.

**Ontario (North & East)** – Nathaniel Meyer, Jason Nuyens, Trevor Kennedy and Elias Majic of Notre Dame High School in Ottawa finished with \$130,586. Advisor: Clasina McGillivray, 613-722-6565.

**Ontario (South & West)** – Mark Ricci and Erin Chapman of Cardinal Carter Secondary School in Leamington finished with \$135,704. Advisor: Frank Spadini, 519-322-2804.

**Quebec** – Michel Tardif and Lorena Hopkins of Champlain Regional College in Lennoxville finished with \$133,294. Advisor: Hai-Binh Nguyen, 819 564-3666.

**Maritimes** – Brent Hennebery and Patrick Kane of Prince Andrew High School in Dartmouth, Nova Scotia, finished with \$120,022. Advisor: Elio Dolente, 902-435-8452.

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## **THE TORONTO STOCK EXCHANGE CENTRE OF KNOWLEDGE EXCELLENCE**

As an industry leader in the field of capital markets and investment, The Toronto Stock Exchange is pursuing a strategy as a centre of knowledge excellence, and as such continually seeks out new forums to communicate information to investors and students of investment. The TSE supports and sponsors a variety of programs geared towards investor education and market policy analysis including the Wilfrid Laurier Stock Market Competition, the University of Toronto Capital Markets Institute and the J.F. Kimber Fellowship. As well, the Exchange's interactive visitor centre, Stock Market Place provides investors of every level with information and education on the securities industry.

### **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 U of T**

In 1998, 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.

### **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.

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**Studies and Conferences**

The Toronto Stock Exchange sponsors major studies on market issues and hosts related conferences. Recent examples are the Dey Report on Corporate Governance, the Allen Report on Corporate Disclosure and the Kirzner Report on Equity Market Fragmentation. These initiatives have contributed significantly to public policy debate on various industry issues.

**Stock Market Place at the TSE**

Last summer, the TSE opened the doors to its dynamic visitor and education centre, Stock Market Place. Stock Market Place's compelling 'edutainment' approach showcases Canada's capital markets, the TSE, member brokerage firms and listed companies. Interactive displays explain the role of the stock market in the Canadian economy for investors, school groups, tourists, media and foreign investors.

Stock Market Place also offers a series of lunch and learn sessions. Every Tuesday and Thursday from 12:15pm to 12:45pm, investors can listen to experts speak on a variety of investment related topics. For schedules of upcoming speakers please check our website: [tse.com](http://tse.com) or call 416-947-4670.

**Web Education**

The TSE's web site [tse.com](http://tse.com) is an interactive educational site for investors of all levels. The TSE is currently building modules that will eventually allow investors to learn more advanced trading strategy and theories about how the markets operate.

The Toronto Stock Exchange recognizes the value and importance of investor education and will continue to sponsor and develop programs that will foster knowledge and growth of the investment industry.