

# NEWS RELEASE

Wilfrid Laurier  
University



## **Thornhill students take top honours in national stock competition**

*Westmount Collegiate students claim national win and three top spots in GTA region*

**For Immediate Release**

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WATERLOO – Bay Street may need to look no further than Thornhill for the next generation of stock wizards. Students at Westmount Collegiate Institute have captured several top positions — first place across Canada and the three top spots in their region — in the national stock market competition for high-school students run by Wilfrid Laurier University.

Westmount students Justin Kornblum and Daniel Vivat won the Winter 2002 National Secondary School Stock Market Competition by turning a virtual \$100,000 into \$635,623. They made their money primarily in options on Celestica Inc., Alcan Aluminum Ltd., Research In Motion Ltd. and Talisman Energy Inc.

The top three teams in the Ontario (Greater Toronto Area) were all from Westmount. Adam Tobe, Michael Abrams and Justin Spigelmen finished with a portfolio worth \$628,327. Anatoly Polishuk, Jeffrey Leung, Jesse Pearlstein and David Halberstadt amassed \$537,039. Justin Kornblum, Daniel Vivat, Eyal Goldfarb, Eric Kaplan and Tomer Chencinski finished with \$438,635. Bill Schoenhardt, the teacher who advised the Westmount teams, can be reached at [bschoenh@wmnt.yrbe.edu.on.ca](mailto:bschoenh@wmnt.yrbe.edu.on.ca).

“The focus of the competition is to support education in investing,” said Sandra Hughes, director of Laurier’s national stock market competitions. “Westmount’s success in this competition, following right on the heels of another win last fall, speaks to the skill and savvy of the students.”

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Between February 18 and May 2, approximately 661 teams or individuals from 100 schools across the country vied for prizes that include \$500 and a scholarship to Laurier worth \$1,000. Winning first place in one of the competition's six regions earns the team or individual \$250. Second-place regional prizes are worth \$100 and third place earns \$50.

- This year's regional winners are: Ontario (North and East) – Jordan Baechler, Andrew Beaumont and Andrew Bignell of Sir James Dunn Collegiate in Sault Ste. Marie finished with a portfolio value of \$464,249 by focusing on options on Ballard Power Systems Inc., Biovail Corp., Celestica Inc. and Research In Motion. Advising teacher Alan Warnock can be reached at [alwarnock@hotmail.com](mailto:alwarnock@hotmail.com).
- Ontario (Toronto) – Suneet Sekhon, Navnit Sidhu, Amandeep Chouhan, Jayanthini Karunamoorthy and Harpreet Dhillon of West Humber Collegiate Institute in Toronto finished with a portfolio worth \$143,686 from straight-equity purchases of Algoma Steel Inc., Cott Corporation and Barrick Gold Corporation. Advising professor Gary Heighington can be reached at [garyheig@enoreo.on.ca](mailto:garyheig@enoreo.on.ca).
- Ontario (South and West) – Brad Somers, Matt Dale, Chad Steffanits and Michelle Brown of Lord Dorchester Secondary School in Dorchester finished with \$162,005. They made significant profits from a short sale of Ballard Power Systems Inc. Advising teacher Richard Cracknell can be reached at [r.cracknell@tvdsb.on.ca](mailto:r.cracknell@tvdsb.on.ca).
- Eastern Canada – Michael Gelinas, Jamie Dallaire, Ian Fredriksson, Sheldon Chubbs and Raphael Bertrand of Three Rivers High School in Trois-Rivieres, Quebec, finished with \$378,896 by trading options on Ballard Power Systems Inc., Celestica Inc., Research In Motion Inc., Biovail Corp., BCE Inc. and BCE Emergis Inc. Advising teacher Steven Osterman can be reached at [trhstock@hotmail.com](mailto:trhstock@hotmail.com).
- Western Canada – Craig Paterson, Marshall Scanlan and Dustin Gueulette of Yale Secondary School in Abbotsford, British Columbia, finished with \$162,446. They profited entirely from multiple straight-equity purchases of ProMetic Life Sciences Inc. Advising teacher Russ Maksymetz can be reached at [rmaks@hotmail.com](mailto:rmaks@hotmail.com).

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The winners of the Huntly-McKay award are Corey Mannerow, Doug Sweiger, Greg Mulderrig, Gary Glasius and Brad White of Chesley District High School in Chesley. The team made its money on equity purchases of Eiger Technologies Inc. The team also used margin buys and short sales to build its portfolio. Advising teacher Heather Spencer can be reached at [Heather\\_Spencer@bwdsb.on.ca](mailto:Heather_Spencer@bwdsb.on.ca).

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The award, given out once per year, recognizes a team that best embodies the spirit of trading. Named for a TSE vice-president who was instrumental in involving the exchange in Laurier's competitions, the \$500 award goes to a team that participates in active trading and experiments with a range of investment strategies.

The Toronto Stock Exchange, the major sponsor of Laurier's national stock market competitions, hosts an annual banquet for the national winners, Ontario's regional winners and for the Huntly-McKay recipient., for the fall and winter competitions. This year's awards banquet will be held at the Metropolitan Hotel, Toronto, on June 3, 2002.

Laurier has been running stock market competitions since 1972 at the high-school, university/college and MBA levels. Held twice each year, the national competitions teach about investing as they monitor stock quotations, submit daily trade requests and view their portfolios on-line. The National Post, Sun Microsystems Canada Ltd., CGI Group Inc., Institutional Equity Traders Association of Toronto and Bell Canada join the TSX as sponsors of the competitions.