

NEWS RELEASE

Wilfrid Laurier
University



Students negotiate market to turn big profits in stock competition

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WATERLOO – Students from Wilfrid Laurier University have won two national stock market competitions, earning combined profits of almost \$350,000. The competitions offer college, university undergraduate and MBA students a safe way to experience the risks and rewards of the stock market.

Laurier's Daniel Day won the Wilfrid Laurier University National MBA Stock Market Competition. Day beat out 26 other teams, winning \$1,000 by turning a virtual \$100,000 portfolio into one worth \$154,963 over a 10-week period beginning September 16.

“The competitions allow students to use a variety of investment tools,” says competition director Sandra Hughes. “The ability to use those tools and develop investment strategies, and see the result of those strategies, is a key learning component of the competitions. The winners of the competitions developed sound strategies and followed them through successfully.”

Meanwhile, Laurier students took the top three prizes in the Wilfrid Laurier University National University/College Undergraduate Stock Market Competition. Neil McVeigh finished first, defeating 1,545 other teams from across the country by finishing with a hypothetical portfolio worth \$210,201.

McVeigh will receive \$1,000 in prize money. Lee Quaile took second place with \$198,562 in imaginary funds, winning a \$500 prize. Ibad Kahn completed Laurier's sweep, coming in third with a \$185,938 portfolio, and will take a home prize of \$300 .

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Nortel Networks Inc. stock proved to be the key to victory for McVeigh. An early purchase of 37,000 shares of the beleaguered telecommunications giant netted a profit of \$80,000, while a later purchase resulted in an additional \$22,750 in profit. A margin buy of Research In Motion secured McVeigh the win.

All the winning teams relied on purchases of technology stocks during the competition, which ran from October 1 to November 28. Zarlink Semiconductors Inc. and Infowave Software Inc. were among the techs that proved profitable for the Laurier teams.

To win any of Laurier's national stock market competitions, students must finish with the highest portfolio value while meeting all of the eligibility criteria. They must spend at least \$50,000 during the competition and hold no fewer than 10 successful acquisitions on any combination of stocks, options, mutual funds, futures and bonds.

Laurier has been running national stock market competitions for college and undergraduate business students since 1992 and offered its first MBA competition in 1998. Sponsors for the competition include the National Post, Bell Canada, Sun Microsystems of Canada Inc., CGI Group Inc. and the Institutional Equity Traders Association of Toronto.

For more information on Laurier's stock market competitions, please visit the Web site at <http://invest.wlu.ca>.